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Iberia warming at three times the global rate

A scientific report published at the end of last week has revealed the Iberian Peninsula has been warming at a rate of 0.5 degrees per decade between 1975 and 2005. (See Page 5)

Portuguese handicrafts: a dying tradition or a promising future?

For centuries the skills of traditional arts and crafts have been passed down from generation to generation, their roots deeply embedded in the national culture. But in the wake of one of the worst economic crises in recent history, have handmade products become a dispensable luxury, or are they providing an alternative means of income and survival? (See Page 6)

Portuguese drink least coffee

Despite having an abundance of cafés that to some could indicate the contrary, official figures have shown the Portuguese population is actually amongst European nations that drink the least amount of coffee. (See Page 11)

Algarve politician seeks Ryder Cup compensation

The PS Algarve leader, Miguel Freitas, has urged the Government to increase financial backing for promotional campaigns of the region after the Ryder Cup 2018 candidacy was given to a course that is not from the Algarve. (See Page 56)

Weekend weather

Lisbon: The next week will have a definite spring feel to it, as rain is expected to stay away while thermometers are set to rise into the early 20s. There will be some heavy cloud over the weekend, before progressively clearing up into Monday. **Faro:** The Algarve will record similar weather to Lisbon the coming week, with warm temperatures that will only be spoilt slightly by heavy cloud on Saturday returning again next Wednesday. **The North:** Northern Portugal will remain cloudy for much of the coming seven days, with the Met Office saying there is a slight chance of rain this Saturday.

As airports re-open, thousands of travellers are left counting the cost of six-day shutdown

DESP-AIR

Full story, see pp. 2&4

Passengers waiting at Faro Airport after the cancellation of flights. (Photo: Lusa / Luis Forra)

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Contacts

Postal Address: Apt 13 • 8401-901 • Lagoa
Courier: Rua Município de S. Domingos • Urb. Lagoa Sol • Lote 3 r/c • 8400-415 Lagoa
Tel: 707 500 655 (+351 282 341 100)
Newsdesk: 707 500 655 (+351 282 380 313)
Sales: 707 500 677 (+351 282 380 310)
Classified: 707 500 646 (+351 282 380 315)
Fax: Gen 707 941 201 (+351 282 341 201)
Fax: Sales: 707 942 053 (+351 282 352 053)
Email: info@theportugalnews.com
sales@theportugalnews.com
Web: www.theportugalnews.com

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Editor: Brendan de Beer • newsdesk@theportugalnews.com
Production: Madeline Luckman • copy@theportugalnews.com
Journalists: Carrie-Marie Bratley • Tommy Broad
Classifieds: Rebecca Andrade
Paws & Claws: Raquel Salbany
Travel: Sherry Hughes
Photos: LUSA • Press Association • Portugal News

Sales Team

SALES MANAGER:
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Desp-air

Tens of thousands of passengers were left stranded in Portugal the past week as one of the biggest disruptions to air travel in memory wreaked unprecedented havoc. An estimated 40,000 passengers were stranded at airports across Portugal, with around half these being accounted for in Faro alone. It also emerged this week that despite the plight of despairing passengers and families, many willing to pay exorbitant amounts to return home, most hotels in the Algarve had actually opted to reduce prices to accommodate those stranded, while the remainder said they had kept their prices unchanged.

As normality returned to Portuguese airports with the weekend approaching, industry experts were looking to learn from the chaos caused in Europes skies when an enormous plume of ash was released by an Icelandic volcano after it erupted on April 14th.

It affected air traffic in almost all of European air space, with thousands of flights being cancelled.

Initial estimates are pointing to losses of around €1.3 billion to the airline industry, while the cost to ordinary passengers will remain open for debate and speculation.

However, economists are saying the cost of the six-day shutdown will take months to calculate and stretch into billions of euros.

The tourist industry, so crucial to Portugal's economy, appears to have escaped the crisis relatively unscathed, despite up to 45,000 travellers destined for Faro alone having been stranded in their home countries.

"To date, the loss of tourists has been compensated by new arrivals [from nationals or Spain] or the extension of stays by guests unable to return home", explained the Portuguese Hotel Association on Wednesday.

According to the Association's chairman, the Greater Lisbon Area was the least affected, while northern Portugal also failed to report any great losses in occupancy rates.

Rui Cupido added that the Algarve recorded an increase in the number of guests last weekend, though this number gradually dropped in the week, resulting in drops of around 15 percent.

Authorities on the island resort of Madeira said they had reported a reduction in the expected number of guests of about 20 percent, while the Azores said figures were down by approximately 30 percent.

A number of coaches were organised to Britain the past week, with hundreds of stranded passengers paying in the region of around €270 for a 36-hour bus trip into London's Victoria station.

This particular journey was organised by VIPChauffeurs who told **The Portugal News** they had brought busses over from the UK as it proved more cost effective.

A Portuguese-based travel agent, forced to act hastily, acquired the services of a Portuguese bus company which amounted to €300 per adult passenger on a coach from the Algarve to Calais in France.

Meanwhile, World Travel and Tourism Council President Jean-Claude Baumgarten, was highly critical of Europe's handling of the volcanic ash crisis.

"This crisis has been handled with the mentality of the early 20th century, without recognising the needs of 21st century travel", accused the WTTC President in a statement released to the press this week.

"It is time," Baumgarten continued, "that the European Commission gets its act together, stops regulating misshapen fruit, and starts creating consistent legislation for an industry that can truly benefit the world's economies as we come out of recession."

The WTTC explained further: "We believe fairer attention must be given to the aviation industry, which was just beginning to find its feet again after the affects of 9/11 and the economic recession, and is now facing the double whammy of loss of business coupled with compensation costs for stranded passengers. It is still too early to assess the full economic impact of the problem, but without action - and soon - to reopen airspace, there will be serious implications for all sectors of Travel and Tourism."

While passengers stranded in Portugal last week were more understanding of the situation when speaking **The Portugal News**, most passengers were this week increasingly irate at the handling of the disruption by airlines.

Michael Domakin, who had been holidaying in Carvoeiro with his wife Alison and son Finlay, 5, had been booked on a flight to Manchester on Wednesday afternoon that was subsequently cancelled. The family, from Glossop, near Manchester, was originally supposed to have flown back on Saturday (April 17th), but was rebooked for Wednesday (21st).

At Faro Airport he told **The Portugal News**, "We got here, queued for an hour and a half and we still don't know why it has been cancelled".

During the extra four days they paid for their stay out of their own pockets.

Deeming his airline "incompetent", Mr. Domakin said: "There's nobody to speak to, no one from the airline has shown their face. The only people who seem to be getting any kind of service are those who are on package deals. If you are not on a package deal no body seems to care about you, you are on your own".

He did admit that over the past days there had been "several conversations" with the airline, but the family had not yet asked for compensation.

Mr. Domakin added, "I understand they have a legal obligation to pay for our accommodation and food costs, but they won't accept that".

"If they have a legal obligation they should be offering that service. It shouldn't be up to us to find out about it by seeing a guy from ABTA [travel association] on the TV. That's how I found out about it".

"Ever since Thursday of the first week we got here we've been worrying about how we were going to get home, so we haven't really had a full week's holiday", he lamented.

Similarly, a group of holidaymakers from Albufeira who had booked a package holiday through Cosmos were also waiting at the airport after being denied boarding a flight to Gatwick.

After being brought on a coach from their hotels, the group queued for three and a half hours to be told there were "only 14 seats on the flight to accommodate the group, so as a result pregnant women and young babies got to go on and now we have to sit here and wait to be found a hotel", explained Mandy Addison, who had been on holiday with her son Harry, 11.

Mother and son, who should have returned to Surrey on Sunday, said that while Cosmo paid for their room for the extended stay, they had paid for the in food.

Sandra and Mark Stillman, who were also part of the Cosmos group with their son Luke, 12, said they were under the impression "they've given our places away", and while they praised "the Cosmos girls, it's not their fault", they still had no idea when they would be going home.

More fortunate were William and Katrina Moir, who were queuing to check in for a confirmed Aer Lingus flight to Dublin. At 28 weeks pregnant with twins, Mrs. Moir was concerned she was "borderline" to fly and said laughingly "I want to get home".

"I've missed a few doctors' appointments", she said, explaining the couple were supposed to have flown home four days earlier.

Commenting on Aer Lingus' support during their unforeseen stay, the Moirs said: "They've been fantastic, very good".

"One girl phoned up every day to see how things were going and she was very aware I was pregnant and coming to the end of the time I can fly".

Despite having done a bit of work via her Blackberry and claiming to have enjoyed their stay in Altura, Mrs. Moir and her husband were unanimous in saying they were relieved to finally be going home.

Bernardino Viegas, head of the Faro Airport Café, confirmed to **The Portugal News** that during the lock-down the establishment had suffered "significant" losses, "particularly at the weekend".

"Some people came to the Airport and left straightaway because they didn't have a flight. There are people, but they don't come to the bar", he said.

Of a different opinion was taxi driver of 20 years Ernaldo Guerreiro, who claimed that the taxi drivers serving the Airport had not been affected by the lack of arrivals.

Describing service as "normal" he said: "Our arrivals agenda cleared, maybe a little was lost, but not much. There were many people who needed to come to the airport to check on their flights and then needed taking back to where they were staying. So service has been constant".

He also told **The Portugal News** he knew of colleagues who had been asked to take passengers further abroad in their attempts to get home.

The rent-a-car companies were more guarded about the effects the air space closure and subsequent effects on passengers had on their services, but in conversation with an employee it seems that the consequences have been different for national and international rental companies.

While national companies may not have suffered knock-on effects, as vehicles can only be picked up and dropped off within Portugal, it was suggested international companies could have seen a growing number of requests for vehicles being acquired in one country and dropped off in another.

Apparent proof of this was a report that told of a man from Coventry who is facing a £1,500 fine after driving a hire car from Portugal to drive to his home in Coventry due to the ash cloud.

According to the BBC, Paul Stidworthy, from Coundon, was on a family holiday in the Algarve when his flight home was cancelled because of the total lock-down on UK and European air space.

He reportedly dropped off a Budget Car Hire he had rented in Portugal at Birmingham Airport where he was told he would be charged £1,500 under the terms of his rental agreement.

A spokesman said the fee was "standard" for one way journeys, covering expenses for returning the vehicle.

"It is not being treated as theft and the car has been taken from the customer."

It was alleged Mr Stidworthy had not made it clear he intended to drive the car to Britain when he hired it.

Mr Stidworthy said he had looked for alternative ways to get his family home after flights to the UK were suspended last Thursday because of the volcano's eruption.

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Oporto Airport pleases passengers

Of 150 airports from around the world, passengers rated Oporto's Sá Carneiro Airport as the 11th most satisfactory in a survey carried out amongst 10,000 consumers by Portuguese consumer rights watchdog DECO and its European counterparts.

A plane lands at Francisco Sá Carneiro airport in Oporto on Wednesday after TAP reinstated flights to all European destinations. (Photo: Lusa / José Coelho)

Included on the list of 150 infrastructures are seven other Portuguese airports, alongside some of the world's largest and busiest.

Singapore, Tokyo and Hong Kong took the top-spots regarding most satisfactory service.

"It goes to prove that it is not always the big airports that present most problems" DECO affirmed in the May edition of its 'Proteste' magazine.

Oporto's Sá Carneiro Airport ranked 11th, a spot DECO says is "highly" satisfactory.

The report found that those approached for the survey considered Sá Carneiro to be one of the safest national airports as well as having the cleanest bathrooms, amongst other factors of global satisfaction.

Of other Portuguese Airports, Funchal took 69th place, Faro 76th, Horta 82nd, Ponta Delgada 100th, Lisboa 109th and Porto Santo 119th.

Lisbon's Portela Airport was criticized for its long security control waiting times, for parking fees, and baggage claim waiting times (which those asked said took up to half an hour, in some cases, twice as long as the average in other national airports).

Of the 84 airlines that were also analysed, including low-cost and charter companies, just as with the airports, oriental airlines earned the highest rates of satisfaction.

TAP Portugal, which ranked highest out of all the Portuguese airlines, was placed almost halfway up the list.

Leg space and the quality/price ratio were considered the least pleasing aspects of flying TAP.

White, TAP's charter company, on the other hand, rated highly with passengers regarding insurance, punctuality, but also failed to impress with its leg space and quality/price ratio.

Azorean airline Sata was criticised on most points of evaluation and particularly on aspects most important to passengers, like cleanliness inside aircraft.

Lisbon couple travel five days to reach home

A Portuguese couple travelled for five days by boat, train and bus, to reach their home in Lisbon after their flight from London Heathrow was cancelled last Thursday because of the volcanic ash.

Five trains, one boat, a bus, and four days was what it took for João Silva and Luísa Romão to travel from London to Lisbon after their two-and-a-bit-hour flight was cancelled following the eruption of the Icelandic volcano.

"It reminded me of the 'Around the World in 80 Days' adventure. But in this case it wasn't around the world, it was through Europe, but I never expected it. It was quite an odyssey", João Silva told Lusa News Agency.

The couple packed their suitcases after a week's holiday in London and made their way to Heathrow Airport last Thursday morning despite having seen the news of the volcano.

"We weren't too worried because we thought it would be a passing thing. When we got to the airport we saw that all flights had been cancelled", he recounted.

The couple stayed at Heathrow Airport until Saturday morning, waiting for news and hoping that the flights would re-start.

"Friday evening the police told us that the Airport would be closed over the weekend", João said, despite having been told that they had been re-booked on a flight at 6am Saturday morning.

They then decided to join an Englishman who proposed the adventure of making their way to Portugal without using the Eurostar.

After catching a bus to Portsmouth the couple crossed by boat to Caen, which arrived at 22h30, and spent the night there. The following day they joined "enormous queues" at the train station and eventually bought tickets to Paris. From there they caught the TGV to Bordeux, where they spent the second night, then travelled on to Irúm, Spain. On Monday they caught the Sud-Express from Irúm, which arrived nearly 24 hours later in Lisbon, at 11h00 on Wednesday morning.

Over the five days João Silva and Luísa Romão ran into other Portuguese travellers trying to return home, and many Brazilians who had connecting flights from Lisbon to Brazil.

Despite being avid mobile-home enthusiasts, the couple had decided to travel by air to London as it was cheaper than taking their mobile home.

In total, returning to Portugal from London cost around €800.

Algarve hotels keep prices down for stranded volcano passengers

Hotel prices in the region have been lowered to help accommodate the many passengers who are still stranded in the Algarve, by the Icelandic volcanic ash that caused the lockdown of European airspace, it emerged this week.

The President of the Algarve's tourism board, Nuno Aires said: "There are still a lot of people in hotels in the Algarve" and that the main concern was to "maintain minimum conditions for people staying on under extraordinary conditions".

Nuno Aires held a meeting with around 40 regional tourism representatives to discuss the stranded passengers' options.

Reportedly, in the meeting Mr. Aires asked tour operators to manage the situation with "sense and sensibility so people are not left vulnerable".

According to Nuno Aires, it is very important that the Algarve "protects its image during such a crisis" and that one of the measures being introduced is the lowering of prices in hotels.

"Prices have been lowered, drastically, to offer a more fitting answer to the problem", he said.

The tourism chief stressed that "hotels are not taking advantage of the crisis to increase prices, quite the contrary; they have the good sense necessary to understand that this is an extraordinary situation".

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Iberia warming at three times the global rate

A scientific report published at the end of last week has revealed the Iberian Peninsula has been warming at a rate of 0.5 degrees per decade between 1975 and 2005. While this increase is similar to the European average, it is 50 percent above the average of the Northern Hemisphere and almost three times the global average.

These conclusions were reached by a team of 120 scientists who were commissioned by the Spanish Government to study the effects of global warming.

The study, entitled, 'The Climate in Spain: past, present and future', which includes Portugal, found that warmer temperatures are being recorded most often in spring and summer.

Overall, maximum temperatures rose more than minimums, resulting in an increase of warmer days and nights.

Despite these findings, and as revealed in last week's edition of **The Portugal News**, data released by the Portuguese Met Office has revealed that the month of March was the coldest on record since 1986 on mainland Portugal.

Average temperatures were well below those established over the 1971-2000 reference period. Maximums were down 1.5ºC, minimums were lower by 0.2ºC, while overall daily temperatures fell 0.8ºC.

It was not only the cold weather that made its mark in March, with last month also being the third wettest the past three decades, with 128.1mm of rainfall being recorded.

Overall, maximum temperatures were down 1.1ºC, while minimum temperatures remained relatively unchanged.

Thermometers reached an average of 12.7ºC, the second lowest since 1971 - the year when temperatures were first documented. Nonetheless, and despite lower-than-usual temperatures, not a single cold snap was reported anywhere in the country this past winter.

A woman rinses her face in a fountain to cool off during a heat wave. (Photo: Lusa / Nuno Veiga)

Most Europeans support policies aimed at reducing alcohol-related harm

Alcohol consumption in the European Union is at a similar level to four years ago, a Eurobarometer survey shows.

Three out of four respondents said they consume alcoholic drinks up to three times a week.

Young people aged 15-24 years are more likely than older age groups to have five or more drinks at a time, and frequent binge drinking is widespread across the EU. Awareness of specific health risks varies.

There is high awareness that harmful consumption is linked to liver diseases but low awareness that it also causes cancer.

Since 2006, the European Commission has worked with national authorities, NGOs and the industry to reduce alcohol related harm.

Gov't launches €1 billion bond issue

The Portuguese Government has this week launched two eurobond issues worth a total €1 billion in an attempt to cover its financing needs.

The six-month and 12-month debt issues will yield between 0.843 percent and 0.706 percent and 1.29 percent and 1.15 percent respectively, a Lisbon bourse analyst told Lusa News Agency. Portugal's public debt office says it plans between eight and 12 bond issues in 2010. The Portuguese state has already sought to raise around €4.5 billion so far this year in five debt issues. *TPN/Lusa*

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Portuguese handicrafts: a dying tradition or a promising future?

For centuries the skills of traditional arts and crafts have been passed down from generation to generation, their roots deeply embedded in national culture. But in the wake of one of the worst economic crises in recent history, have handmade products become a dispensable luxury, or are they providing an alternative means of income and survival?

Modern amenities imported en-masse from developing countries like China have led to the substitution of many traditional hand-made items, forcing those that endured the overhaul to find alternative niches as decorative luxuries or tourist souvenirs. And fears that younger generations are losing interest in carrying on traditional handicrafts, like basket weaving, ceramics and rag-rug making, does little to reassure older generations that their heritage will be carried on.

Jorge Saraiva, secretary of one of Portugal's largest arts and crafts associations the Regional Association of Artisans in Aveiro 'A Barrica', told **The Portugal News**, "Generally, the numbers of artisans that are traditional ones are diminishing".

"This is due to the loss of usefulness that handmade products offer current day-to-day life, as well as the difficulty or impossibility of artisans to adapt their activity to the necessities or functionalities of 'modern times'", he explained, warning that such arts and crafts could be at risk of "becoming an activity without economic viability, whose continuity is of little attraction to future generations".

This was an opinion shared by long-term Algarve resident François Pello, a French artesan based in Lagos whose career has spanned more than three decades.

Two artisans of traditional handicrafts photographed at a recent FATACIL trade fair in Lagoa. (Photo: The Portugal News/Carrie-Marie Bratley)

François was amongst the first participants of the national FATACIL exhibition.

Held every year in Lagoa (Algarve) FATACIL is currently Portugal's largest arts and crafts trade exhibition.

In previous years artisans have travelled from all over the country to take place in the massive event, though, François told **The Portugal News**, "Now there are many people, particularly from the north, that don't want to come because it doesn't [financially] compensate them".

Blaming 'disloyal competition' from countries like Northern Africa and Asia, where goods are still handmade, but exported and subsequently sold at much lower prices than national products, he also pointed a finger at the economic crisis as being responsible for the endangerment of traditional arts and crafts.

"I am nearing retirement age, and I am glad this is happening now and not when I was in my late teens, just starting out", he said, continuing "Of course it [the current economic climate] will affect the future of handicrafts; people are still looking to buy crockery and leather goods but at cheaper prices. And you can't force people to spend money".

François, who specialises in handmade, old-fashioned leather goods, has not escaped unscathed. Speaking of his personal situation, he confided "My wife and I have always worked together, but last year she had to find a second job to make ends meet. We get by but it's not like it used to be. Now we sell mostly to people who are already familiar with our work".

Jorge Saraiva offered a similar explanation: "There has been a radical change in human and social behaviour. A 'bottom drawer' (essential items for a home collected before marriage), and the home itself, which should be a place of creation, family growth, reuniting friends and making memories, have both given way to voids where what we wear and use is increasingly dispensable and has a shorter lifespan".

"Public and private entities, local and national, which should be on a par and become partners in this type of activity, particularly those relating to jobs, tourism and associations, have not been able to maintain, preserve or improve these arts and skills", he criticised.

However, it seems that a new trend has emerged from the traditional handicraft scenario, a modern take on arts and crafts referred to as 'applied' and/or 'urban' arts.

These are defined by A Barrica as items that with "some dexterity and simple or recycled materials can be easily produced".

In 2008 there were 366 students enrolled on University Arts and Crafts courses in Portugal; 21 more than in the year 2000, though significantly fewer than the year before, when the subject's popularity peaked due to nearly 400 students enrolling on the traditional course.

A year later, the number of students completing a degree in arts and crafts reached the highest in a decade, with 147 pupils receiving a diploma.

But a vast majority of 'urban' artisans are not equipped with formal qualifications and make their living based on talent and resourcefulness.

"There are situations where urban handicraft, applied arts or even food crafts, have created an alternative form of survival and income during the crisis, but these are normally temporary activities that are not officially registered to avoid paying the due legal contributions".

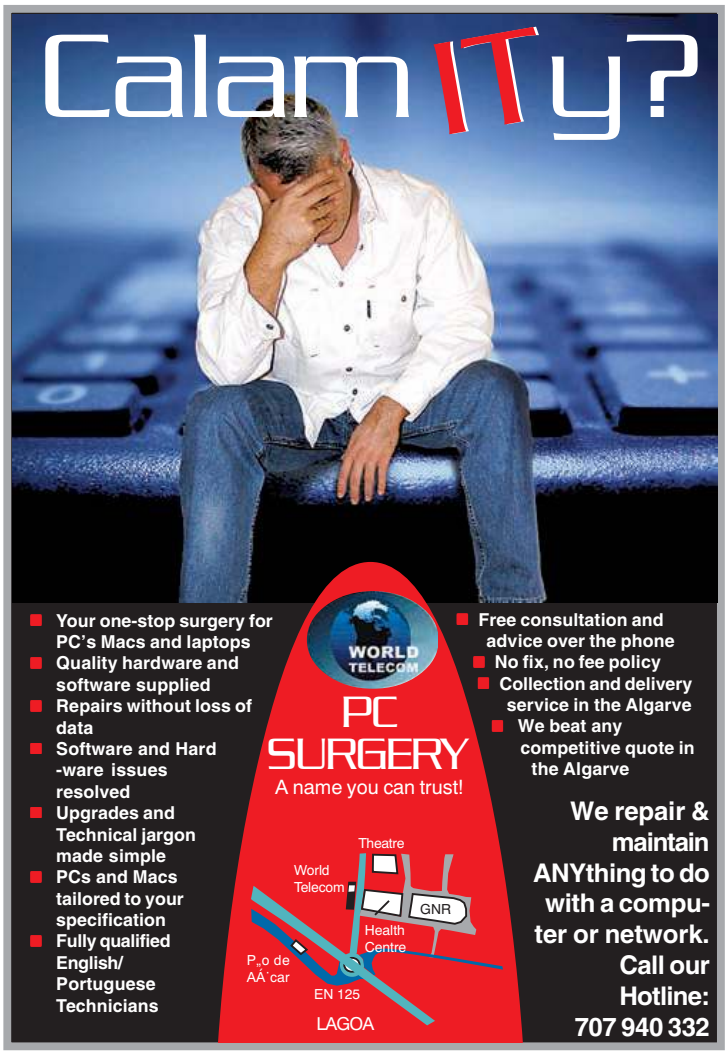
Jorge Saraiva concluded that, while "the number of artisans over the past few years has remained stable, there are fewer in traditional arts and crafts, though more and more are emerging in the modern and urban realm", therefore balancing out the figures.

Interestingly, as a new trend in national arts and crafts takes shape, modern technology is being hailed largely responsible for the success of the new-comers, with many first-timers using the internet, or, more specifically, the blogosphere, as their publicity tool.

An article originally published in the Marketeer Magazine, investigating the advantages of using blogs on the World Wide Web to promote 'urban' crafts, explained how from blogs artisans found a way of "growing into small businesses, managing, on a daily basis, production, communication and distribution components of their micro-empires".

According to 'Brands of Contemporary Handicraft', by author Catarina Alfaia, it is via the blogosphere that handmade goods such as knitted dolls, felt bags, Azorean cloth toys, personalised cakes, papier maché monsters, recycled wallets, patchwork T-shirts and mirrors made from waste materials, are distributed throughout Portugal and the world over. Thanks to the 'dot.com', crafts that started out as a hobby or gifts for friends and families are being exported from living rooms in Portugal to specialized outlets in countries including Italy, Holland, the USA, Canada, Spain and the UK.

Carrie-Marie Bratley



Goldra to close with animals still needing homes

Now in the final countdown before it officially closes at the end of May, Goldra animal shelter in Loulé still has dogs and cats in need of re-homing, though as a result of a lot of hard work, many have been lucky enough to find a new family to live with.

One of the dogs at Goldra, currently waiting to find a new home.

Goldra's re-homing drive has been very successful in the sense that a large number of abandoned animals have found a new home in a short amount of time. It remains closed to new arrivals.

When news broke in February that the kennel, otherwise known as Quintinha, was closing, more than 100 dogs and 70 cats were in its care. After frenzied re-homing drives, around half of those animals have been found new families to live with, many of them being taken to Germany and Holland.

Between 50 and 60 animals still need re-homing, many of which are older or larger dogs, or have an illness that needs treatment. Goldra is also appealing for foster families to take in the dogs that are en-route to new homes in other countries.

Volunteer Tania Maughan explained "We need short-term foster homes, for no more than three days, for the dogs that are leaving the shelter".

"Often when they leave the dogs are a little unsettled, so we are looking for short-term foster families who will give them a bath and help socialise them before they go on to their new families".

Goldra founder Lurdes Ingle, who is in her seventies, made the decision to end her rescue operation after more than a decade of taking in the area's stray and abandoned animals.

"I don't have the strength to do it anymore, but it is breaking my heart", Lurdes told **The Portugal News** earlier this year.

After a period of deteriorating health, Lourdes is now said to be on the road to recovery.

An email sent to **The Portugal News** explained that Lourdes has asked "to let everyone know that she has been very ill but is now much better".

"Her physical health has been deteriorating and she was overwhelmed with the stress of trying to do the impossible. The enormous number of animals arriving could not all be found good homes and running costs grew until it was impossible to raise enough money to pay the bills. The result was a severe nervous breakdown", the email read.

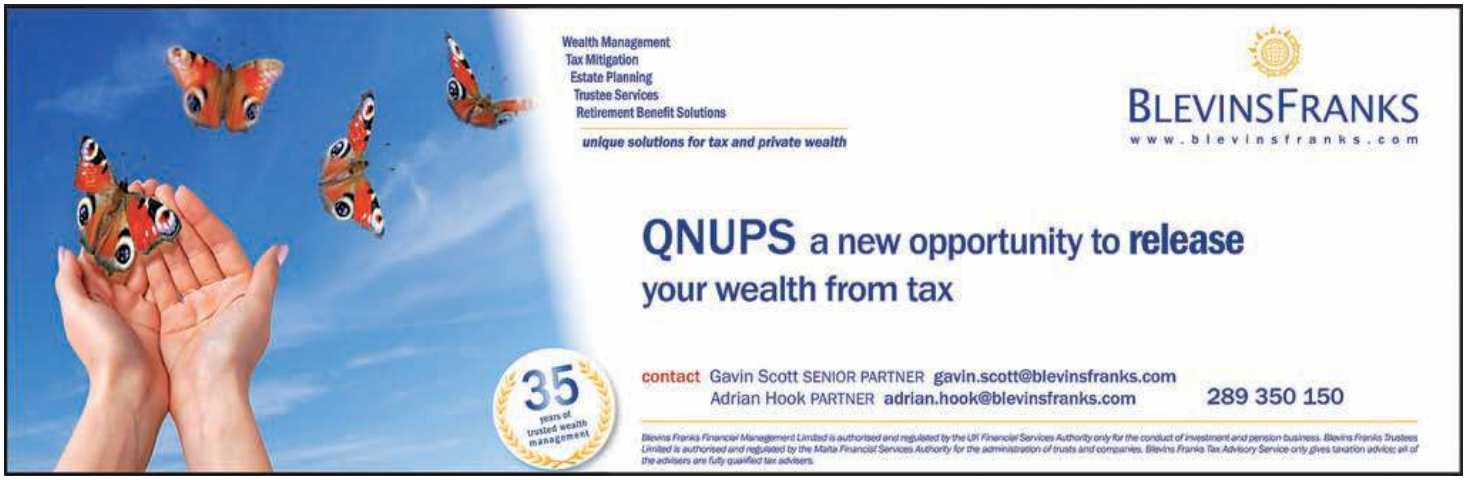
It denied that Lourdes had "disappeared" and clarified "Lourdes has not sold the land at Goldra".

The email further stated that two kennel assistants are still employed at Goldra, a vet is available, and the re-homing of animals was "already in the hands of very capable volunteers".

"The shops at São Brás and Quarteira continue with business as usual. The accounts for Quintinha have been dealt with by an accountant since Quintinha started, and there is not one penny missing", it stressed.

With dogs and cats still needing homes, Goldra has appealed to "everyone to adopt a Quintinha animal", but, it urged, people should not be of the impression that "when the target date for closure is reached, the remaining animals will be destroyed".

Anyone interested in re-homing an animal should ring Verna Kinder 962 560 451 / 282 449 395. Alternatively, see website: www.quintinhaanimalcentre.org, *or see* page 45 of **The Portugal News**.



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Tourism expected to pick up

Experts have predicted that this year the tourism sector could improve by three percent in comparison to 2009, which was branded as a "very bad" year, though the industry will not regain any of the revenue earned prior to the crisis.

Based on the results of an enquiry, the Institute for Tourism Planning and Development (IPDT) believes 2010 will be better in terms of tourism than 2009.

This was confirmed to Lusa News Agency by IPDT President António Jorge Costa, who revealed the 'Tourism 2010' yearly report in Lisbon.

He told Lusa that this year a growth of "at least three percent" in comparison to 2009 could be expected, both in terms of revenue generated by foreign tourists and by national tourists. He also said he believed national business-owners, particularly those who work in the hotel and restaurant industry, could attract new clients with a set of measures that included improving accommodation, investing in "more diverse" gastronomy, and promoting tourist-orientated products at international fairs, on the Internet and on social networking sites.

Additionally, António Jorge Costa highlighted, the Government has reinforced its promotion of Portuguese tourism on "strategic international markets". He further stressed that there are "traditional international markets" which should not be ignored, like the Spanish and British markets. But the tourism chief defends there is still a need for "improving Portugal's quota" abroad as well as increasing "the arrival of tourists in Portugal", investing in countries such as Asia, which "wants to travel" as well as the younger Brazilian sector that "travels to Europe".

Mr. Costa further urged that it is necessary to continue encouraging "internal" tourism, which he believes has responded well to "what has been on offer".

But despite previsions of growth for this year, António Costa acknowledged that "it will not be possible to match the figures of 2008", described as "the best in the history of tourism", and "an exceptional year".

Tourists at Cape St. Vincente ejoying the magnificent view from the cliff tops. (Photo: Lusa / Luis Forra)

Algarve's foreign tourists spend more than nationals

A study into the profile of tourists in the Algarve has concluded that national visitors spend less per day in the region than their foreign counterparts.

On average, a Portuguese visitor in the Algarve will spend €56 per day and will be accommodated in properties that they own or are owned by friends.

Foreign tourists were revealed to prefer staying in hotels and spend between €164 and €200 per day.

Carried out by the University of the Algarve, the profile study showed that Portuguese tourists to the region are mainly (41 percent) from greater Lisbon. They are generally in their forties, married or living together, and bring their families to enjoy a holiday staying in properties that belong to them or with family and friends.

Foreign vacationers' profiles were determined to be very different from the national tourist, being mainly from the UK (65 percent), aged on average 50 years or older, travelling with friends, and prefer to stay in hotels, villas or apart-hotels.

Both types of tourist to the Algarve, foreign and national, are highly-educated. National visitors to the region are predominantly feminine (53 percent), while foreign tourists are mainly male (80 percent).

The study further revealed that Portuguese visitors are generally employed by someone else and have an average income of around €2,000; 84 percent of national tourists in the Algarve said they would definitely return.

Foreigners who visit the Algarve to play golf nearly always return in summer with their family.

National tourists describe the Algarve as a 'relaxing' place, but say it is 'disorganised' on an urban level. They are largely unsatisfied with the quality of hospital services and cost of living in the region. They stay in the region for an average of nine days.

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Madeira flood damage set officially at €1bn

The Portuguese government has officially estimated that massive flash floods and mudslides in February cost the resort island of Madeira slightly more than €1 billion in damages.

Prime Minister José Sócrates announced the figure earlier this week in the archipelago's hard-hit capital, Funchal, after talks between the central and regional governments.

He said Lisbon would re-programme budget priorities and immediately seek loans through the European Investment Bank and aid from the European Union to begin reconstruction work.

Nearly 50 people were killed in the February 20 floods and mudslides that ravaged Funchal and other towns on Madeira's southern coast.

After the talks, the prime minister placed the damage estimate at €1.08 billion.

Regional authorities had estimated earlier that damages had reached about €1.4 billion.

Prime Minister Sócrates said the central government would cover €740 million of the reconstruction costs, while the regional administration, donations and insurance would pick up €309 million.

Lisbon would ask the European Solidarity Fund for €31 million, he said.

Despite the government's belt-tightening budget commitments, José Sócrates described the resort island's reconstruction as a national "priority".

Earlier on Monday, the Prime Minister went for an early morning jog through downtown Funchal, praising the Madeirans for their "great job" in restoring the resort island's capital after massive flash floods last February.

"It's just like it was before. They've done a great job", he said of the recovery effort after his run along the city's landmark waterfront.

The prime minister arrived in the resort island on Sunday to attend the annual Flower Festival, a major tourist attraction.

He acknowledged his morning jog was partly aimed to showcase Funchal's post-floods recovery. *TPN/Lusa*

Post office workers to strike against salary slashes

Workers from Portugal's postal distribution centres are to hold a five-day strike at the end of this month to protest against a reduction in their salaries caused by an alteration of work timetables.

From April 26th to the end of the month "dozens" of distribution centre employees are to stage industrial action, the sector's union confirmed this week.

Further labour action for all CTT workers has been scheduled for April 27th in response to the freezing of public workers' salaries, which was announced by the Government this year.

In comments to Lusa News Agency, Eduardo Rita, of the National Union for Post Office and Telecommunications Workers (SNTCT), said that a reduction in monthly earnings was the result of a loss of 'inconvenient hours', night and breakfast benefits. In some cases these can total up to an extra €270 per month.

This has all been caused by an alteration to workers' schedules following a handover of post-sorting to CTT's Mailtec group, which, allegedly, enlists temporary workers.

The union claims that the handover will allow Mailtec to "reduce many hundreds of jobs in the CDP distribution centres".

The director of CTTs Human Resources has denied any connection between the handover of the sorting process to Mailtec and the retraction of subsidies, saying "there are no jobs at risk and no plans for lay-offs or early retirements".

Suspended sentence for child rapist

A Braga Court this week condemned a man accused of raping an eight-year-old child to a five-year suspended prison sentence.

The jury suspended the jail term on the condition that the defendant pay the victim's family €35,000 in compensation, over the next two years.

The Court proved that the defendant sexually abused the minor and consummated the sexual act.

The suspension of his sentence was also based on the fact that he confessed to his crime, showed regret, and had no previous convictions.

At the end of the hearing the victim's family lawyer, Licínio Ramalho, confirmed there was a possibility that an appeal would be made, should it be in the interests of the family.

According to the sentencing the defendant sexually abused the child for two years, between 2008 and 2009, when he was a visitor to the mother's home.

The accusation was based on the little girl's statement in 2009 and on statements from the child's mother and grandmother. It also took into account medical and psychological reports that indicated sexual abuse.

The defendant was facing a prison term that could have ranged between three and ten years, given that a sexual act had been consummated. Three judges collectively opted to give the man a five-year sentence that was suspended.

Prime Minister José Sócrates(c), the Governor of Madeira Alberto João Jardim (L) and Internal Affairs Minister Rui Pereira make a toast with traditional Madeiran punch during a visit to downtown Funchal on April 19th. (Photo. Lusa / Homem de Gouveia)

Silves Iberian Lynx cub dies

The female Lynx Azahar was the first to arrive at the Reproduction Centre in Silves after being born in captivity in Jerez de La Frontera in Spain. (Photo: Lusa / Nuno Veiga)

One of the two Iberian Lynx cubs born on Easter Sunday in the Silves National Reproduction Centre has died due to an "acute illness", a source from the centre said.

Born Easter Sunday, the two cubs, a male and a female, were the first born in the centre. The National Iberian Lynx Reproduction Centre was specifically created to repopulate the Iberian Lynx species, which is on the brink of extinction.

"The two cubs were fine until the Sunday, then that day one of them died of an acute cause and deteriorated rapidly", the centre's director, Rodrigo Serra, explained to Lusa News Agency.

Preliminary results from an autopsy carried out in an analysis and diagnostic centre in Malaga (Spain), which normally carries out autopsies on Iberian Lynxes that die in captivity, said that the week-old cub was "well fed" and not neglected by its mother.

In 2009, "40 percent of the cubs born, died before two months of age", Rodrigo Serra said. That year, in Spain, 28 Iberian Lynxes were born in captivity, only 17 survived beyond the first two months, according to the Institute of Nature Conservation and Biodiversity (ICNB).

In 2008 16 cubs were born, three died and six had to be removed from their parents to be hand reared. The ICNB concluded that "neonatal mortality amongst Iberian Lynxes is normal".

They are the first-borns of female Iberian Lynx 'Azahar', Arab for orange blossom, who was born in the wild five years ago and was the first animal to be transferred to the Silves Centre, having arrived from Spain last October.

Despite several attempts Azahar had never managed to successfully reproduce in the reproduction centre where she had been previously homed, in Jerez de la Frontera. It is believed the 'stress' of the Spanish centre's urban location prevented the lynx from becoming pregnant.

The male, Drago, was born in captivity in La Olivilla and was also one of the 16 Iberian Lynxes brought to Silves from Spain in an attempt to boost the dwindling indigenous species.

Environmental Minister Dulce Álvaro Pássaro said "we hope these cubs and others in the future will be released back into the wild to repopulate our countryside".

At the beginning of the 20th Century, the Iberian Lynx population, which is indigenous to Portugal and Spain, comprised an estimated 100,000 animals, but is now considered to be one of the most endangered species in the world, with around just 200 animals remaining in the wild.

In Portugal, the last sighting of a lynx was reported in 1980.

THE PORTUGAL News
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€35m to turn environmental challenges into business opportunities

The European Commission has launched a €35 million call for eco-innovation projects to be funded under the Competitiveness and Innovation Programme.

Under the 2010 CIP Eco-innovation call for proposals, funds are available for new projects in the area of materials recycling, sustainable building products, the food and drink sector and green business practices. Applications are particularly welcome from small businesses with green products or services that need backing to penetrate markets. The call opens today and runs until 9 September 2010. Some 50 projects could end up being chosen for funding.

Janez Potonik, European Commissioner for the Environment said: "This call for innovative projects is a tremendous opportunity for Europe's entrepreneurial talent to showcase new ideas to reduce our ecological footprint. The CIP Eco-Innovation programme shows that helping the environment makes good business sense, with numerous products and services now demonstrating how competitive growth and environmental protection can go hand in hand."

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Portuguese drink least coffee

Despite having an abundance of cafés that to some could indicate the contrary, official figures have shown the Portuguese population is actually amongst European nations that drink the least amount of coffee.

A study conducted by the International Coffee Organisation (OIC), defying popular belief, has shown that Portugal is not amongst Europe's top coffee drinkers.

It has been estimated that each Portuguese citizen consumes, on average, around four kilograms of coffee every year. While this seems a large quantity, it is a third less than the European average, which stands at six kilos per year.

It was also found that Portuguese consume between one and two coffees a day and prefer to drink their coffees outside the home, though making an espresso or latte in the home is gaining popularity.

A habit that dates back nearly one thousand years, drinking coffee is also a profitable business.

It is calculated that the national roasted coffee bean market is worth around two billion euros and is dominated by four main brands: Delta, Nestlé, Nutricafés and NewCoffee (a joint venture made up of Bogani, A Caféeira, Caffeccel, Lavazza and Sanzala).

Last year pure coffee sales in the immediate consumption food sector raked in more than €315 million; ground coffee sales suffered a drop of six percent, pure coffee sachet sales rose by 612 percent.

The sale of 'coffee-bags', another new form of making coffee, also grew by 123 percent.

But at present, the coffee industry is also suffering setbacks because of the economic crisis.

In the OIC's most recent report, it is estimated that global production for 2009/2010 could suffer a drop of 4.8 percent (worst case scenario), in comparison to the previous harvest.

This represents the production of between 120 and 122 million 60-kilo sacks of coffee worldwide.

In 2009 worldwide production of coffee was 124 million sacks.

During the first five months of the 2009/2010 production year 35.6 million sacks of coffee were produced; 11 percent less than the first five months of the 2008/2009 harvest.

Despite the crisis, Portugal can rest assured that it still serves up some of the most affordable coffee in Europe.

Brazil is currently the world's largest coffee producer, responsible for some 39 million sacks of coffee in 2009, still significantly less than the 45 million sacks that country produced the year before.

Photo above right: A Portuguese man enjoys a cigarette and a coffee in the Aliança café in downtown Faro, on e of the few estalishments where customers could still smoke in the wake of the smoking ban in 2008. (Photo: Lusa / Luis Forra)

EU-wide databank for medical equipment to boost market surveillance

A European Commission decision adopted on Monday will oblige all EU countries to use, as of May 2011, a European databank for medical devices (Eudamed).

Medical devices range from life-supporting devices such as pacemakers through to hip implants or X-ray machines, down to products used daily such as syringes or blood testing kits.

Even though these resources are traded on the European single market, data which is key to their safety – such as conformity certificates and data on clinical investigations – is for the time being collected only at national level.

The Eudamed databank is a secure IT tool which will ensure rapid access to such data by market surveillance authorities. The databank will also streamline the rules for manufacturers placing in vitro diagnostic (IVD) devices on the market.

Commissioner in charge of Health and Consumer Policy John Dalli said: "This decision is good news for patients across the EU. It will lead to increased patients' safety thanks to rapid access to critical data by national authorities".

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Report shows efficiency of EU's cooperation on dangerous products

The number of dangerous consumer products notified through the EU's rapid alert system for non-food dangerous products (RAPEX) rose by seven percent in 2009 compared to 2008, the Commission's annual RAPEX report shows.

According to the European Commission, this rise from 1,866 notifications in 2008 to 1,993 last year shows that the capacity of the RAPEX system has increased again in 2009, following more effective market surveillance by Member States.

Toys, clothing and motor vehicles were the most frequently notified products in 2009. In addition, the results of an EU market surveillance exercise, involving 13 countries checking the safety of toys, were also presented today, and show that around 20 percent did not comply with the relevant safety requirements.

John Dalli, Commissioner in charge of Health & Consumer Policy said: "This report serves as our annual reality check of the safety of products on the EU market for EU citizens. Safety is of critical personal relevance to Member States, and in the past six years RAPEX has become an example of the effectiveness of EU cooperation in this area".

EU 2009 budget surplus under 2%

EU spending in 2009 corresponded closely to the adopted budget. The figures released on 15 April 2010 by the European Commission show a surplus of €2.25bn, amounting to 1.9 percent of the 2009 budget (€113.410bn). The surplus will be deducted from Member States contributions to the 2010 budget.

Janusz Lewandowski, EU Commissioner for Financial Programming and Budget, pointed out that "the low level of leftover funds in 2009 demonstrates that we direct EU funds efficiently where agreed needs lie and that every euro paid into the EU budget is used for the benefit of our citizens".

He also underlined that "the EU budget surplus will be entered as revenue into the 2010 budget, therefore amounting to real savings for Member States in their contributions to the current year's EU budget.

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Complimentary seminars in the Algarve on 'making money on the stockmarket'

Dutch stock broker Alex Portugal is offering complimentary seminars about the initricacies behind making money on the stock market. These seminars are held in Dutch and will take place in the Algarve on May 12 and 13 (Wednesday and Thursday).

Alex Director Kaspar Huijsman will explain exactly how the stockmarket works by using recent real examples. While these seminars have proven to be interesting for people who have just started to invest, they are also aimed at the more experienced since it is always possible to learn something new and in that way increase the chances of getting better results.

"A good investor does not let his or her emotions get in the way of a good investment decision", says Huijsman, adding: "He knows what investment instruments fit in his investment plan and therefore is capable of getting the right mix of stocks, options and trackers. Only then is it possible to gain a nice profit on the stockmarket.

"He meets clients on a daily basis and it surprises him that a lot of people do not have a plan on how to invest their money. People who want to invest should be aware of what it is they want to achieve, on a short term and on a long term basis."

He further stresses: "What kinds of risks they are willing to accept to take and if they want direct access to their money, investing is not about emotions but about planning, you'd be surprised how many people invest in businesses simply because they like the products they make".

Alex has been the first and only bank to teach their clients how to invest, with seminars organised by the Alex Academy.

The seminars in May in Portugal form part of this service. In an informal classroom atmosphere people can learn about the latest tips and tricks and ask questions.

For those who are not able to attend there is the possibility to do online courses and in Portugal it also possible to have a 'personal trainer'.

Members of the Alex Team are available for personal appointments so the client can get one-on-one guidance on their investments. It is possible to schedule an appointment for the 12th, 13th and 14th of May with Kaspar Huijsman. Together with Mr Huijsman, readers can take a close look on their investments and wishes and establish a plan.

Further guidance will then be offered by phone, mail or at a next meeting.

The seminars 'Geld verdienen op de beurs' are free, and can be subscribed to by visiting www.alexportugal.nl, sending an email to info@alexportugal.nl or by phone: +351 282 380335.

The dates, times and venues for the seminars are: May 12: 15.30 – 17.00hrs at the Le Meridien Hotel in Portimão and May 13 from 15.30 – 17.00hrs in Albufeira.

Spring Clean Your Investments and Savings

Spring is here and, with the anticipation of the summer, you maybe spring clean certain aspects of your life.

This year let me remind you to have a thorough look at your investments in light of what is happening around us. Cash and government bonds have been king for the first decade of the millennium, but are they today and for the next decade?

Investments should be reviewed at least annually and as an adviser, I continue to analyse opportunities on a more regular basis and shortfalls to protect my clients' invested capital and their return. You should consider the suitability of your savings and investments, especially if you have recently moved to Portugal, as they may not be relevant now to your current and future life.

Don't be afraid to get down and dirty to scrub down your investments to protect their longevity. In my last article for The News, I talked about possible punitive changes to the tax regime. Clearly, in the wake of increased levels of global fiscal tightening (increase of taxation), in order to address excessive and historical levels of public and sovereign debt (along with the fact that regulatory pressure has brought many tax-efficient jurisdictions to share their information), in essence taxation must be considered as a key factor of your financial planning towards the best results for growth and/or recovery.

Managing assets outside of Portugal such as individual investment plans or portfolios can be challenging. Obviously investment assets should be reviewed as to their success and therefore to consider whether their upkeep gives rise to adverse situations such as tax for a Portuguese resident. The obstacle may be simply that you prefer to meet face-to-face with your adviser or bank on an ongoing basis. Without prior consultation in moving to Portugal, you may have overlooked a much-needed review of these assets after your busy transition to a new country.

By way of an illustration, taking income from an ISA as a UK tax resident is assessed as tax-free income, but when you are residing in Portugal the income from an ISA will probably be assessed with other forms of income and subsequently taxed. In the same vein, it is normally at this time of year (up until the 5th April) that you would consider using your annual tax-free ISA allowance as a UK tax resident which, as a Portuguese tax resident, will no longer be available to you.

You may have been experiencing very low returns in the way of annual bonuses and exit penalties in the way of Market Value Adjusters (MVAs) or Reductions (MVRs) attached to existing With-Profits Bonds or Endowment policies but cannot get any clear answers from your product provider now you are living in Portugal.

You may be offered a variety of other products but the questions will remain the same. Does this product fulfil your current goals and objectives and how will it affect your tax position as a Portuguese resident?

The UK Financial Services Authority (FSA) has structured some questions to help you weigh up the pros and cons as to whether you should keep or change your existing with profit plan:

- *Do the policies still meet my needs?*
- *How long have I had the policies and how long is left?*
- *What can I expect my policies to be worth if I keep them until they mature?*
- *What benefits do my policies have?*
- *What could I get if I cashed in my policies today?*
- *Is there any way I can cash-in my policies without the company charging surrender penalties?*
- *If I do cash-in the policies, what should I do with the money?*
- *I've received a letter from my insurers saying I can switch to a unit-linked fund – should I?*
- *Should I move my money to another insurer?*

Although they may appear very simple, once you start to consider the responses you will begin to open a number of other key aspects that are worth taking into account.

Getting independent and unbiased opinion should help you acknowledge the answers to dust down your savings and investments and help put a "spring" in your step.

This article is intended to provide a general review of certain topics and its purpose is to inform but NOT to recommend or support any specific investments or course of action.

Raoul Ruiz Martinez is a resident and independent consultant for Finesco Financial Services Ltd., Glasgow and regulated to advise on capital investments in both the UK and throughout Europe under MiFID regulation. He can be contacted at the offices of euroFINESCOs.a. either by telephone on 289 561 333 or on email Raoul.Ruiz@Finesco.com.

Finesco Financial Services Ltd is authorised and regulated by the Financial Services Authority (FSA). Some of the services provided are not regulated by the FSA because they are not included within the Financial Services and Markets Act 2000.

Introducing the Business + Zone

Due to demand from prominent businesses across the Algarve and beyond, this year a new area has been created within the International Algarve Fair in which key companies and discerning clients can discuss issues in a more private, quieter, more exclusive atmosphere: the 'Business + Zone'.

Due to demand for stand space the International Algarve Fair has redesigned the interior of the pavilion to provide a new area for exhibitors who seek a slightly quieter and more exclusive atmosphere to meet their clients.

This new area has been named the Business + Zone and will have some of the features you will also find in the 'Golden Triangle Exhibition', to be held later this year.

These include a Champagne Bar, space for exhibitors to sit comfortably with clients, and a more private feel.

Confirmed companies that will be in the Business + Zone include Royal Caribbean International, the Algarve Race Track, Vila Sol, World Telecom & Optimus, Ashbourne Villiers, Joro, the Airport Centre and Soul Kitchen Productions.

Refreshment is available in the form of a Champagne Bar or the Portugal News Café & Lounge, where visitors will find the popular traditional coffee and 'pastel de nata'.

Only a handful of stands remain unsold. Those interested in reserving a stand are encouraged to contact the sales department as soon as possible. Sizes range from 3x3 metres to 6x6 metres.

With just six weeks to go, the International Algarve Fair will be taking place on June 5th and 6th.

For more information or details, call: 282 380 317, or visit: www.algarvefair.com.

Visitors to the Business + zone at the International Algarve Fair will be able to enjoy a glass of champagne in the Vila Sol Champagne Bar.

Portugal's cork-wrapped pavilion readied for Shanghai EXPO dress rehearsal

Construction of Portugal's cork-enveloped pavilion for Shanghai's Expo 2010 was completed on time last week and will be ready for the Chinese event's dress rehearsal next weekend, the head of Lisbon's exhibit said this week.

Rolando Borges Martins told Lusa News Agency he expected the 2,000 square-metre Portuguese pavilion and exhibit, readied with a €10 million budget, to draw nearly 3 million visitors during the six-month event that opens officially on May 1.

Borges Martins said Lisbon's exhibit would centre on renewable energy and environmental themes, with the pavilion's cork façade underlining one of Portugal's environment-friendly products.

Organised around the theme 'Better City, Better Life', Shanghai's Expo 2010 will feature pavilions and exhibits from some 200 countries and institutions in the biggest international event hosted by China since the Beijing Olympics in 2008.

According to Chinese media the total cost of the event will top €43 billion.

TPN/Lusa

Development aid to increase despite crisis

Portugal has no intention of reducing its foreign development aid contributions despite the financial crisis, but meeting UN-set goals will be "very difficult", a senior official said this week.

"Despite the crisis, despite the difficulties we have in Portugal, despite the PEC (Stability and Growth Pact), the government has no intention of lessening the sums that are destined for development cooperation", the state secretary for foreign affairs and cooperation told Lusa News Agency.

Regardless of Lisbon's aid commitments, especially to former colonies in Africa and Asia, João Gomes Cravinho said it would be "very difficult" for Portugal to meet the UN goal for aid reaching 0.7 percent of GDP by 2015.

"I think, however, that it's safe to say we will increase [aid] and thus progress on the path of meeting this objective", Gomes Cravinho said in comments ahead of a two-day conference on development aid that opened in Lisbon on Wednesday.

Aid policy, he added, should not be formed with a "shopkeeper's mentality" of immediate profit.

He said possible returns to Portugal from development aid would come in "the medium and long term" in terms of increased trade and investment.

TPN/Lusa

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Linen warehouse

Linen Warehouse owned by Kathryn Owen & Michael Braidwood has now been trading for over 3 months with great results.

Kathryn & Michael bought the Yorkshire Linen franchise in Dec 2009 re-named the business and moved location onto the new roundabout in Almancil where it is more visible and has lots of private parking.

Their aim is to meet everyone's requirements on basic stock products by increasing stock levels on all basic stock lines so that even large quantities can be purchased there and then.

A very wide range of linen and towels are also available and are complementing the extensive colour selection of duvet sets, bedspreads & cushions.

A new line due this week is 400 thread Egyptian cotton sheets and pillowcases as a regular stock item that are even more luxurious than the 200 thread also in stock.

Customers are now spoilt for choice as their 600g Egyptian cotton towels and bath mats now have two new colours increasing their selection to 13 different colours.

The 500g Ultimate towels and bath mats are available in 9 colours and are great value for personal or rental purposes.

Also due in this week is a fabulous beach towel (from a well known UK brand) in a giant size and in a choice of 3 different colours at an extremely low promotional price while stocks last.

At the end of March Linen Warehouse opened their new curtain department which is proving to be a great success with a great choice of curtains, voiles, poles, tiebacks, accessories and co-ordinating cushions with luxury and budget ranges to suit everyone.

Linen Warehouse will soon be opening for an hour longer through the summer months until 7pm, date to be announced soon in the Portugal News.

The opening hours are Mon- Fri 10am - 6pm, Sat 10am -5pm closed 1pm - 2pm everyday for lunch.

TV Audio Tec

TV Audio Tec started to operate in 2003 but Luis' experience in the industry goes way back to 1984 when he began his career as a TV engineer in South Africa.

Being a qualified TV Engineer and ANACOM certified, TV Audio Tec have the ability to implement and sign off any TV and telecommunication network executed by the company. The company is also INCI registered; therefore its technicians are able to work on controlled building sites. Having began in 2003, the company has grown steadily and now has three TV engineers, two dedicated installers and a receptionist, allowing the team to take on a big work load.

The business specialises in two main fields: television/audio equipment and Sky receiver maintenance, carrying out after sales services with Sony Portugal, Loewe, Bang & Olufsen and the Worten group. The other main field in which it specialises in is the installation and supply of satellite equipment, from one-off installs to multi user boxes, aimed mainly at the Sky users market in the Algarve. As TV Audio Tec imports all of its own Sky equipment, prices are extremely competitive.

Working throughout the whole Algarve, and neighbouring towns in Southern Spain, TV Audio Tec are open weekdays from 09h00 to 13h00 and 14h30 to 18h30.

For more information or bookings, please call Judith on 911 055 134 or for a technical related query call Luis on 916 744 929. Email: luistronix@tvaudiotec.com

Mary visits Drain Doctor 'troops'

Mary Kennedy Thompson, president of the Mr. Rooter Corporation of the USA, has been meeting Drain Doctor staff in Portugal.

Mr Rooter is the US equivalent of Drain Doctor Plumbing - the UK's largest emergency plumbing and drain repair service which recently launched in Portugal - and both are part of the Dwyer Group in the USA.

Mary - who was an officer in the US Marines before embarking upon a highly successful career in commerce - was the guest of Freddie and Jan Mitman, respectively the chairman and franchise sales director of Drain Doctor.

She said: "There is a two-way trade in ideas between Drain Doctor and Mr Rooter. Having an opportunity to see first hand some of the things that Drain Doctor is doing has helped to strengthen the links between the two companies."

Jan Mitman said: "We have learned a lot from Mary and from American franchisees over the years. Mary's visit gave a real boost to European franchisees as they saw what could be possible for their own businesses."

Drain Doctor and Mr Rooter both offer guaranteed 24 hours per day 365 days per year service with a fixed price 'menu' and no call-out or out-of-hours charges.

Having started the Drain Doctor business in the UK in 1993, Freddie and Jan Mitman are now exporting their success formula to Portugal where they intend to set up a similar nationwide chain of franchise businesses.

They chose Portugal as their first expansion into the European mainland as a result of their own experiences.

Jan Mitman explained: "We are lucky enough to have a holiday villa in Portugal - but were unlucky enough to have a problem with the drains which turned out to be the result of tree roots growing through the pipes.

"We were unable to get a competent plumber in Portugal to deal with the problem and, in fact, ended up flying out a CCTV drain inspection kit from the UK for a local contractor to use in locating and - eventually - fixing the problem.

"This incident set us thinking and a little research soon showed that our experience was far from unique. It was clear that there is a tremendous opportunity for a plumbing business which operates to the standards which Drain Doctor has established in the UK."

Initially the company has established a directly-owned operation in the Algarve to prove the concept for the Portuguese market. Its fully-equipped vans cover Faro, Albufeira, Portimão, Lagos and Sagres. Once that business has been successfully trading for a while, Drain Doctor will start to sell franchises.

· Drain Doctor Plumbing - 0800 358 68 98.

Júlia Caleiro – solicitor

The purchase of a property in Portugal, whether for holidays, investment or permanent living is a very important decision. With language barriers preventing the fast process of the purchase, it is important to use a Portuguese speaking solicitor as they are fully aware of the Portuguese Law and also because all the legal documents regarding properties are in Portuguese.

Júlia Caleiro is a Portuguese solicitor, who is also fluent in English, and will make the process of buying a house a whole lot easier with her experience and knowledge.

Her services extend throughout the whole buying process, such as acquiring the reservation of property and promissory contract, applying for a Tax/Fiscal number, obtaining technical and property tax certificates, certification of the license of use with the council, registering and surveying the property, transferring the deeds, among others.

With no hidden charges and all information explained to the most infinite detail, clients will never encounter a surprise hefty bill at the end of her services.

Being a solicitor since 2003, her studies were completed in Lisbon, fulfilling her lifelong ambition.

Beginning with small jobs, her activity has grown steadily and she now represents a significant number of local companies and clients. She is aided by a hard working team which comprises lawyers, auxiliary staff that provide accurate, transparent, legal services of high quality and show their commitment to the clients, never forgetting the most scrupulous ethical principles and exhibiting dignity to the Law professions.

She considers herself a fortunate person, because she works in an area she likes, despite of all the stress, pressure and responsibilities involved. Her working days are all different; helping, solving and advising people is a very gratifying experience.

Her main working area is in the central Algarve, but also collaborates with offices in Lisbon, England and Ireland, giving her the opportunity to act on a larger scale.

THIS WEEK'S PROFILES

Drain Doctor Portugal

For more information on Drain Doctor Portugal, please call 289 425 480, or visit www.draindoctor.pt They are on call 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

Linen warehouse

For more information, please contact Linen Warehouse on 289 396 385, email linenwarehouse@sapo.pt or visit their showroom. It is located on the left hand side of the roundabout coming into Almancil from the EN125 (Boliqueime direction).

TV Audio Tec

For more information or bookings, please call Judith on 911 055 134 or for a technical related query call Luis on 916 744 929. Email: luistronix@tvaudiotec.com

Júlia Caleiro

For more information on Júlia Caleiro's services, please contact her by email on mail@algarvelex.com, visit her website www.algarvelex.com or call +351 289 316551. Her offices are located in Vilamoura.

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Speed traps reduce accidents in Lisbon

According to Lisbon's Municipal Police, the 21 speed traps on Lisbon's main roads have reduced the number of accidents and speeding offences considerably, as well as having increased overall road safety.

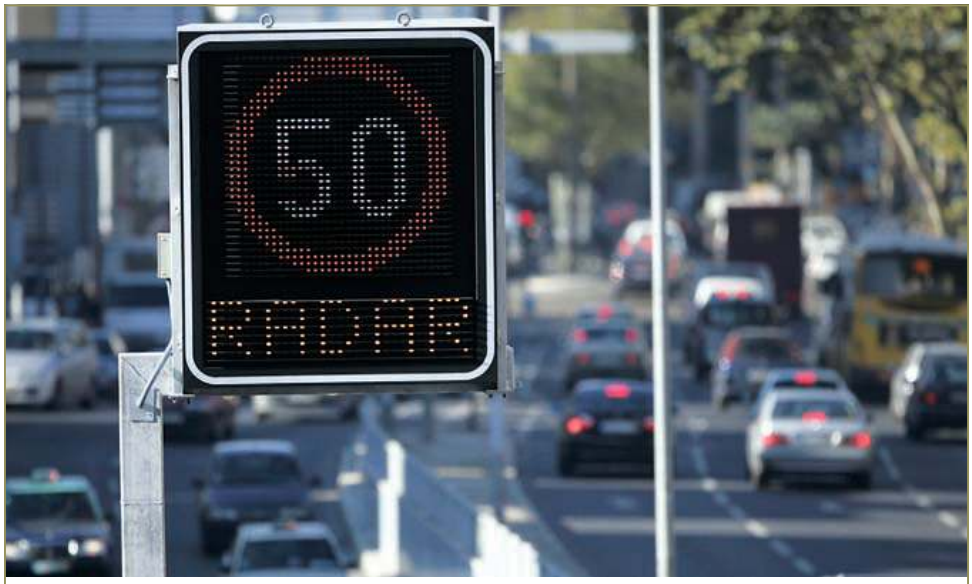
Lisbon Council is so happy with the results it is considering installing more speed traps in the City, but mobile ones that are not perceptible by drivers.

In their two years of existence in Lisbon, the fixed speed traps have registered a 69.3% drop in speeding offences.

Installation of speed traps in Portugal's main cities has been controversial, with some specialists criticizing the methods used to improve safety, together with others who argue their legality. On the other hand, many people also defend their use, exemplifying the good results obtained (in terms of accidents) from the traps in Lisbon and Oporto.

Authorities themselves are very happy with the improvements the devices have brought: "Since they [the speed traps] have been installed we have had good results, it seems they have a psychological effect on drivers" said André Gomes, from Lisbon's Municipal Police. The figures registered leave no room for doubt: 261,770 drivers were fined in 2007, dropping to 80,307 the following year.

The authorities have said the installation of more speed traps is not being pondered for financial gain, although it is general knowledge that the State has earned €7.7 million from these traps in the past three years, representing 61% of all fines issued by the GNR. This may be the reason why Internal Affairs have announced the installation of 300 speed traps on the country's main roads this year.



One of the 21 speed traps located on Lisbon's mainroads. (Photo: Andre Kosters/LUSA)

'Clean Up the Atlantic' returns to Cascais

The 'Clean Up the Atlantic' event is taking place in Cascais for the third year running, between 28th and 30th May, hoping to gather even more people to clean the sea and beaches this time round.

The clean up initiative is organised by Cascais Council, Cascais Atlântico Agency and the Cascais Ecological Group, in partnership with ProjectMar, Portuguese Spearfishing and Free Diving Association, and Exclusive Divers Diving Centre.

"This initiative in our council reinforces, once again, the proactive stance Cascais has played in protecting and cherishing the sea as a strategic natural resource for our country" said Carlos Carreiras, Vice-President of Cascais Council and Chairman of Cascais Atlântico.

This year's main target for underwater cleaning is the Pescadores beach, taking place on May 29th, with further beach cleaning on foot taking place at Guincho beach (28th May) and the rocky area between Pescadores and Rainha beaches (29th May). Cleaning work will continue on May 30th by volunteers.

People interested in helping 'Clean Up the Atlantic' can register until 22nd May to participate in the underwater cleaning actions (www.cascais atlantico.org) and beach cleaning on foot (www.gec.pt).

Scorching future for Cascais

A study on the impact climate change will have in Cascais has shown that the summers in the Council could be 10°C hotter in 2100 and the beaches will be much smaller, as well as a surge in health problems.

The future does not look bright for Cascais with this latest climate change study, presented by the Council, showing that the beaches of the council will be practically without sand, insect transmittable diseases will increase, water levels will decrease in streams, there will be more forest fires and less biodiversity.

These are just some of the scenarios pictured by the SIAM's study, which comprises a vast interdisciplinary study on the impact of climate change in Portugal. This study does not make precise predictions but only shows some of the possible scenarios Portugal may be facing in the not so far away future.

One of the startling results was the increase of water levels by one metre, which would eliminate most of the sand on all south facing beaches. For Carlos Carreiras, Cascais Vice-President, that is not the most alarming figure: "What bothers us the most are the effects on health conditions and well being, and the loss of biodiversity" he said, pointing to the heatwaves, insect-related diseases, and atmospheric pollution as the most harmful effects.

However, not all is negative in a hot future as fishing fleets will benefit from the heat and the Carcavelos wine, although it is thought the vines will be dead by 2100 due to the heat, will benefit from the initial increase of temperatures. Tourism will also increase as the coastal areas will be the most bearable during the hottest months, with the possibility of artificially replacing the sand, and seasonality of tourism will also change to a longer period.

"We have to look at the study with caution, taking into account there are some uncertainties" said Filipe Duarte Santos, coordinator of the project from Lisbon University's Science Department. He suggests the evaluation should be repeated at regular intervals, based on new methodologies in order to get a better picture of the future ahead.

Open House

My parents were educated, generous and inhospitable. They welcomed our nuclear family of four in our home, but no one else. As a young girl I played jacks at my neighbor's house, spent the weekends at the country home of a friend and studied in the basement of my high school beau. It wasn't that my parents disliked people: they just didn't want them in our home. We had a large living room with a white, designer rug that spoke "Stay out." Even my sister and I had to take off our shoes to enter, which we rarely did as the room seemed cold and foreboding.

Our dining room table was set for four. It had an extra leaf that could seat four more, but never did. I can't remember anyone coming over to eat with us even though my mom made a great chocolate pie and grilled tasty lamb chops. But always enough for only four. Most poignantly, when I asked if a college friend come visit me from Chicago, I was told that she was welcome but had to stay in a hotel. (I was too embarrassed to tell her this news, and instead I made up some farfetched reason why she couldn't visit me after all.)

That's when I made a silent vow to live my life differently once I was on my own. It's strange how parental habits and attitudes become so deeply ingrained in our own. I thought the change would come easy, but it didn't. The first year I lived in Portugal two friends from the States wrote that they would be travelling in Europe and asked if they could stay with me for four nights. I remember looking around my smallish apartment and thinking, "Not here." I told them there was a cosy and inexpensive residencial down the street from where I lived, and that's where they stayed for their visit. I felt ashamed of my unsociability, but the best I could do was to invite them in for lunches and dinners.

Once I moved to a larger apartment I had no excuses, and by that time I was rooted into the tradition of Portuguese hospitality. So last October at a family reunion, when I met a new cousin, I was ready for what followed:

"Hey Pat, I hear you live in Portugal," Karen, 25, said.

I felt my body tighten knowing what would come next. But then I heard myself say,

"Yes, why don't you come and visit?"

Last week Karen left after staying with us for nine days. Before she arrived I made a vow: no residencials, few restaurants, lots of conversations, and even a cookout in her honour. Don and I, the two dogs and Karen, a stunning young woman visiting Europe alone for the first time, shared meals, chores , and stayed up late laughing and talking in ways our family never did when I was young.

The day before she was to leave Karen said, "I'd like to cook dinner for you and Don.

"Doing it different (and right) this time, I cancelled our Tuesday bridge night game and said, "Yes, we'd love that"

On Tuesday evening she set the table and served salmon steaks marinated and broiled, a spinach and avocado salad worthy of a 5-star chef and pasteis de nata she'd bought in Belem that day. The day after Karen left I got a email from her, "Pat, thanks for your hospitality."

Westheimer

She signed it, "From your European daughter."

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UK pupil organises school book sale to raise money for Algarve orphans

After reading about the plight of the Pirilampos orphanage while on holiday in Portugal last year, eight-year-old Hannah Ellis decided that when she returned to the UK she wanted to do something to help.

Eight-year-old Hannah Ellis (centre), with dad John (left) and several of the Pirilampos children.

Inspired after reading about local artist David Haines' fundraising efforts for Pirilampos, Hannah and her parents got in touch with him to ask for more information about the home and its residents, and how they could help. Hannah then enlisted the help of her school in the UK and held a book sale, from which more than €200 was raised.

When the Ellis family returned to Portugal earlier this year, during the Easter holidays, they met up with David Haines who took them first to Makro, to purchase cereals, sausages, yogurts, cheese and lots of other things, including some treats, totalling €260 of goods. Hannah and her parents were then taken to Pirilampos to meet the children and hand over the eagerly-anticipated shopping.

"Language was no problem for the children and firm friends were made", David told **The Portugal News** of the Ellis' visit to Pirilampos.

As a long-term campaigner for Pirilampos, as well as other children's charities across the Algarve, David Haines praised Hannah and her family's efforts for Pirilampos, saying "Children helping children, it is wonderful".

Saint George's Day march to help British troops

Harry's Bar, a popular local haunt in Carvoeiro, is organising a 'St. George's Day Parade' to be held on Sunday 25th April, at 4pm, in aid of the British Troops returning from Afghanistan and who are in need of help.

Starting from Harry's Bar, the aim of the parade is to pay a call at all bars in the village displaying the 'St. George's Day Parade' poster. Therein collections will be made for the troops. The total amount raised will be passed on to the Royal British Legion, who in turn will channel it to the appropriate recipient.

"I'm sure we all feel very strongly about the loss of life of our young men and women who are bravely going about their duty, and of those who are physically maimed for life", the organisers said, adding "Please give generously and let's try to make a difference, however small".

Participants are asked to be suitably attired, if possible (but not compulsory), in white with a red cross. For more information, contact Bob Harris on: 917 886 986.

Tavira tornado latest in series of mini-twisters

A mini-tornado that tore through Tavira last Friday, throwing dozens of fishing boats into the air, sinking another boat and ripping tiles off the roof of the local Olive-Growers Cooperative, was reportedly one of 17 to have been registered in the past six months.

In the wake of the event Tavira Mayor Jorge Botelho told Lusa News Agency "there was no harm caused to humans but around 30 boats were affected by the mini-tornado".

Mayor Botelho calculated the abnormal phenomenon cost the region "many tens of thousands of euros" in damage.

"It happened in five seconds. I saw the tube [of the mini tornado] from afar, then the tiles in the air and boats flying", said an eyewitness, whose boat was also damaged in the event.

Maritime Police confirmed the mini-tornado happened at approximately 08h45 in the morning.

Half an hour after the Tavira tornado a waterspout was sighted at sea off the coast of Cascais.

No damage was caused by the waterspout, though one that ripped through Lisbon's Bairro Horizonte two days earlier caused some material damage.

Reportedly, an abnormal number of mini-tornados were documented this past winter. Over the past six months there have been 17 in total.

Portimão approves plan of action against crime

Portimão Council has recently approved a safety plan for the Council, which will enforce fifteen measures to improve the general feeling of safety in the city.

The measures announced by Portimão Council last week are expected to reduce conflicts and problems that generate insecurity and crime within the council. Also in line for some changes are problems related to noisy night establishments and the reduction of social exclusion actions, which the study found may be associated to criminality.

According to Portimão Council, the approved plan resulted from a study of the city about safety, which found several problems, among which drug trafficking was identified.

Portimão Council, Faro's Civil Government, PSP, GNR and Immigration Control are all taking part in the project, named Local Safety Contract, which will be monitored and assessed at the end of the year.

Portimão organises year-long events to commemorate life of Manuel Teixeira Gomes

As part of national celebrations, Portimão, the birthplace of illustrious Portuguese politician and writer Manuel Teixeira Gomes, has organised a year-long agenda of events to commemorate his lifetime of historic achievements.

As one of Portimão's most famous citizens, Manuel Teixeira Gomes played a key role in regional and national history. Portimão Town Hall has put together a unique, year-long diary of events to commemorate his life, featuring exhibitions, theatre, music and literature.

Born in Portimão on May 27th 1860, this year will see the commemoration of his 150th anniversary. A gifted scholar and diplomat from the start, Manuel Teixeira Gomes left Portimão for Coimbra, where he studied at the Seminário dos Olivais, at the age of 10. At 15 he entered medical college, though it is believed formal studies 'bored him'. He later opted to lead a bohemian lifestyle between Lisbon and Oporto, socialising with other great young intellectuals of the art, cultural, political and literary worlds of his time. These included poets João de Deus and António Nobre, writer, playwright and politician Teófilo Braga and a Portuguese lawyer Manuel de Arriaga, who went on to become the first Attorney-General and the first elected President of the first Portuguese Republic.

After delving into the world of literature and making his name as a writer, Manuel Teixeira Gomes returned to the Algarve to help his father, then the region's main exporter of dry fruit, with his fig and almond business. He used his time as a businessman and exporter to travel the world, spending long periods getting intimately acquainted with the cultures and arts of Europe, the Mediterranean, Northern Africa and the Orient.

Fluent in six languages, in early 1911 he was called to London to represent the fledgling Portuguese Republic, being the Portuguese Republic's first Ambassador to London and launching himself on a path to prestigious acclaim amidst international politics.

Teixeira Gomes' grandson, José Manuel Teixeira Gomes Pearce de Azevedo, who for 35 years was British Consul to the Algarve and to this day still lives in Portimão, told **The Portugal News**, "My grandfather was a marvellous man".

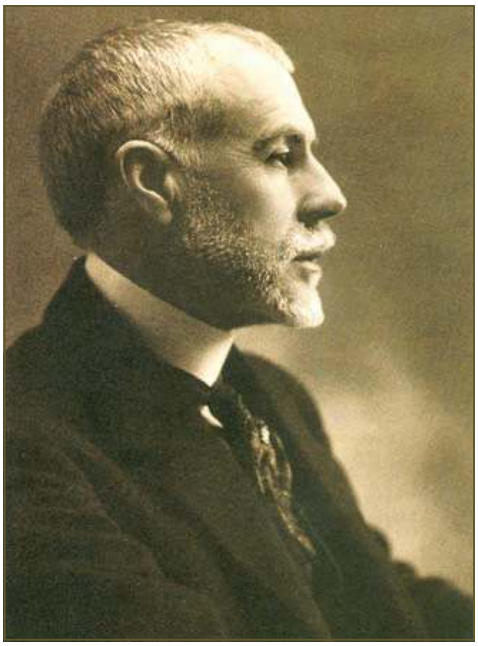
"He was very intelligent, very cultured and travelled all over the world", said Mr. Azevedo, who was also first chairman of the then RTA regional tourism board.

In 1923 Manuel Teixeira Gomes was elected as President of the Portuguese Republic, and remains known as one of the most clear-thinking and civilly dedicated presidents of recent times.

However, unhappy with the political and social instability brought on by a national financial scandal, involving the Banco Angola and Metrópole, he renounced his role as President after just two years. He left Portugal five days later and never returned alive.

Manuel Teixeira Gomes died in Bougie (now Bejaia), Algeria, on October 18th, 1941. His body was only returned to his birthplace, Portimão, nine years after his death, on October 18th, 1950, on a war ship. His coffin's arrival gave way to one of the biggest democratic protests against the New State that Portimão has ever seen.

Manuel Teixeira Gomes is buried in Portimão cemetery, in an unassuming grave that very much contradicts his role as one of the country's most prolific intellectuals.



F1 Powerboat Grand Prix returns to Algarve

The Arade river will be hosting great water sport events over the next two weekends, the Formula One PowerBoat UIM World Championship, on 8th and 9th May, and the Formula Future National Championship.

This weekend, the National Championship of the Formula Future is taking place on the Arade river. Intended to have taken place last weekend, the event was postponed due to bad weather and is now being held one week prior to the F1 UIM PowerBoat World Championship.

Duarte Benavente is the only Portuguese pilot in the Championship, representing the F1 Atlantic Team, and will be one of the 20 pilots competing in the first race of 2010, in what promises to be an action packed event, as always.

Racing events postponed at Algarve MotorPark

The Euroboss and Historic Group C racing events, scheduled for this weekend at the AIA (Algarve MotorPark), have been postponed due to the air traffic complications caused by the Icelandic volcano.

The Euroboss and Historic Group C events were scheduled to take place between 23rd and 25th April at the Portimão racetrack but, as the drivers and teams' presence could not be guaranteed, organisers were forced to postpone the races to the end of summer.

The Euroboss event is a race in which a wide variety of single seater vehicles, all built before 1993, compete, such as Formula 1, Formula 3000, Champcar and Indy cars. The Historic Group C involves the racing of prototypes built before 1993.

Ticket owners for the events can either ask for a refund at the racetrack's shop or use the same tickets when the event takes place.

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Dinner Dance in aid of the Associação de Equitação Adaptada Barlavento

The Associação de Equitação Adaptada Barlavento provides local people of all ages and of varying disabilities with the opportunity to ride. Apart from the sheer enjoyment they experience, the mental and physical benefits to the riders are proving to be enormous.

We are holding our main fund raising event of the year - Dinner and Dancing to Class Act (Karen and Ian Carfrae) on Saturday, 1st May at 19:00 for 19:30 in The Hotel Tivoli Lagos. Tickets are €29.50, which includes a 3 course meal, wine, beer, etc. Tickets and further information: Contact Margaret 918 823 807, Heather 282687517 or Sarah 962192710.

We are looking for further helpers at our sessions on Thursday and Friday mornings at Quinta do Paraíso Alto in Bensafrim. Please contact Frank Bulmer on 282688 330.

Help for Heroes Gala Dinner Dance

British troops injured while serving in Afghanistan need all the help they can get when repatriated to Britain. One charity that is at the forefront of the drive to ensure that military personnel are well cared for is Help for Heroes.

Three Algarve ladies Carole Good-Dixon, Heather Scott and Carol Williamson, who have raised thousands of euros for Algarve charities, are turning their attention to helping the UK based organisation with a Gala Evening Dinner Dance at the Hotel Garbe in Armação de Pêra on Saturday, 29th May. Tickets cost €25 and include a donation to the charity. Carol Williamson has a relative who lost limbs in a roadside bomb explosion and is determined to do all she can to make life that little more bearable for the returning soldiers.

If you wish to attend the event or can offer a raffle prize please contact: Carol Williamson 282322854 or e-mail: Williamson@clix.pt, Carole Good-Dixon 966 571 639 or Heather Scott 282 471 096. The Hotel Garbe is offering 25% off room rates for this special event - Tel. 282 320 260.

€1,200 raised for Madeira disaster appeal

Forty Olhanense fans including a dozen expats followed their team to Funchal last December when they played Marítimo.

The devastation and loss of life caused by the floods earlier this year resulted in a few of the supporters embarking on a fund raising drive. Half-a-dozen supporters had either grown beards or were having their heads shaved to help the Appeal. "We were made so welcome when we visited that we just had to do something for the local community," said Chris Wright. Richard Birtles, a regular of the Restaurant Fonte Nova, Pechão, had his head shaved whilst Richard 'Fly' Eustace had only half his beard shaved to earn extra cash for the appeal.

Thanks to the generous support of the Central Algarve Ladies Luncheon Group, Mad Hatters Riverside Bar, Tavira who held a Quiz, Beira Rio Restaurant & Irish Bar, Tavira; Restaurant Fonte Nova, Pechão; Mars Bar, Manta Rota; Frontera, on the EN125 at Fuzeta; Cara's Hairdressing Salon, Tavira and numerous individuals over €1,200 was raised. José Francisco Nóbrega, President of the Marítimo Supporters Club, and several other fans travelled over from Madeira and joined the Olhanense fans as they prepared for the shave-off prior to the game with Marítimo last Friday. On the Saturday forty fans together with their visitors enjoyed a festive lunch on Culatra Island.

With the bad weather on the Friday evening of the Olhanense v. Marítimo game several of the participants postponed their shave until last Monday. Larry Bawden, who has sported a beard for 20 years, Neil Richardson and Chris Wright enlisted the help of local Tavira legend Fernando José Dos Santos who has been a barber in the town since 1946. Tucked away behind the old market the premises are very much as they were sixty-four years ago. One can only imagine the stories those ancient but magnificent, high backed swivel chairs have been witness to.

Clean shaven Larry Bawden, Neil Richardson & Chris Wright with Tavira barber Fernando José Dos Santos.

It never rains on the golf course

How many times have we heard that phrase? Well, The Tagus Golf Society can now state with absolute certainty – IT'S NOT TRUE!

Under threatening skies, 21 brave souls (quite a few of them in their 80's) strode off down the first fairway at Estoril last Friday. Waterproofs donned and umbrellas at the ready, determined to play the first medal competition of the season. The cards for the first few holes were promising, showing a couple of birdies and quite a few pars. But, alas, it was not to be. Having shrugged off the rumble of thunder around the 3rd hole, they checked the skies for lightning. All was well, so on they played. However, as the first group reached the 7th green, the heavens opened and a huge downpour turned the green into a lake within minutes. Sheltering under the trees for quite a long time, the golfers collectively decided that this was Not Fun, so everyone made their way back to the clubhouse to dry off.

Dinner was served at the Casa das Quintas in Bicuda, where the Portuguese-speaking countries were highlighted with typical Portuguese starters, Caril de Gambas from Mozambique and Picanha from Brazil, washed down with good Portuguese wine. The presentation of prizes became a lucky dip, although Miranda Thomas won a genuine prize for Nearest the Pin on the 2nd hole.

The Portuguese have a saying – "Abril Aguas Mil" – and this was certainly the case for The Flag Competition. Next month there will be blue skies and sunshine for The Captain's Scramble because we all know - it never rains on the golf course!

Miranda Thomas receives her prize for Nearest the Pin on the 2nd hole.

Walking in the beautiful Algarve

Wed. April 28 - Let's Walk to the Arade Barragem

This 2½ hour circular walk will take you through the foothills and around to the Barragem which is full to overflowing!

14.00pm start meet at the Cafe Pescadores. From Silves take the road towards Messines, after 3km you pass an old abandoned factory on the right, 500m further on turn left towards Pinheiro and Garrado. After 300m the road bends left and the cafe is on the corner.

Sun. May 2nd - Let's Walk from Porto do Mos, Lagos

A combination of countryside and cliff top walking on this easy 2 hour walk.

14.00pm start meet in the car park by the cliffs. Drive along the main avenida in Lagos up past the fort to the 'ball' roundabout where you take the 3rd exit (left), straight over at the next roundabout and then bear right to Porto do Mos, the road ends by the car park.

All are welcome to come along - there is no need to book (there is a charge of €5 per walk which includes a donation to charity). Please wear comfortable shoes, bring some water and a sense of humour! If you require more details please call: Julie Statham 965753033 / 922244242 or see: www.portugalwalks.com

Bike rides

April 21st: Bike Ride - Starting at Browns in Vilamoura. Meet at 6.20 pm for a 6.30 pm start. A ride of around 25km on mostly flat and easy roads.

April 24th: Bike Ride - Starting in Alte , parking on the main street just up from the cemetry roundabout. Meet at 09.45 am for a 10.00 start. A challenging ride of around 35km on a mixture of dirt tracks and tarmac roads.

April 25th: Bike Ride - Starting in Salir, Park on or near to Rua Manuel d'Eusebio, meet at 09.45 for a 10.00 start. This will be a moderately challenging ride on a mixture of tarmac and dirt track roads.

April 28th: Bike Ride - Starting at Browns in Vilamoura. Meet at 6.20 pm for a 6.30 pm start. A ride of around 25km on mostly flat and easy roads.

The Wednesday evening rides are aimed at providing training for riders in the forthcoming ACCA Charity bike ride on Sunday, 2nd May. After the 2nd May, I will continue the Wednesday evening rides provided that enough people support these and the weather permits !

Bike Hire - Transport

If you need bike hire or transport, then please do let me know in advance so that this can be arranged. I will aim to be at Bikeland from around 9.00 am to 9.15 am on Saturday and can carry hire bikes and several passengers. Bike hire for Sunday needs to be booked in advance as Bikeland is closed on Sundays, if anyone needs a bike then please let me know and I can collect it on Saturday and return on Monday. Anyone needing transport on Sunday please let me know.

For more info: Paul Beesley, Activity Algarve, Tel: 913226 954, E-mail: paul.beesley@sapo.pt, www.activityalgarve.com, Facebook: Algarve Bike Rides.

The St. Patrick's Society 'Irish Walk'

The monthly St. Patrick's Society 'Irish Walk' will be on Friday, April 30th at 10:15 for a prompt 10:30 start. It will be a 2 to 3 hour walk in the Alentejo, about 60km north of the intersection of the A22 Motorway with the IC1 (old road to Lisbon), so allow at least 1 hour to get to the meeting point.

Hopefully there will be a good display of wildflowers. The walk will be mostly on tracks, with hills, so sensible footware should be worn. Sorry, no dogs. For details on where to meet, and to book lunch if desired, please email: brownlow@ sapo.pt or call Jim 282 431595, or 967780465."

WRVS Car Boot Sale

On Saturday, May 8th at Carcavelos Clothes Market between 10.00h and 14.00h. Cost: €12 per car (Payable on the day). **100% of your pitch price goes to charity!**

Browse for treasures such as toys, books, baby items, clothing, household goods, furniture and much more including WRVS hot and cold drinks, snacks sandwiches and delicious home made cakes!

To reserve a place to sell from your car email Simon at: sdjwebb@yahoo.com or phone 919760644, or Kim at: kimwulff59@hotmail.com or phone 962836283, and leave a message with your name, telephone number or e-mail address. If you would like to donate items e-mail Ineke at: wrvsportugal@gmail.com

Talks on Portuguese History by Peter Kingdon Booker

'Corsairs in the Algarve' on Monday, 26 April at 7 pm, at ASCA, Rua do Comunitário, Almancil, entrance is €3.

The Algarve has for centuries been a target for pirates and corsairs – from Roman times through to the Barbary corsairs of the early modern period. There have been pirates of all nationalities, including the English and their Drake, and the Algarve has always been vulnerable and difficult to defend. On rare occasions it was Algarvians themselves who became pirates. It has always taken a determined effort to stamp them out, and in 1815 it was the United States Navy which took the leading role for the first time as the world´s policeman.

Pirates, or corsairs or letters of marque? How much international brigandage was government sponsored? In the latest of his lectures on Algarvian and Portuguese history, Peter Kingdon Booker discusses the role of the pirates in the history of the Algarve.

For more information e-mail: lynne.booker@iol.pt or call 281971 567.

Luz Spring Fair blossoms

The beautiful coastline at Praia da Luz is the setting for Madrugada's Spring Fair and Fashion Show which takes place at Vila Luz Aparthotel on Sunday 2nd May. Eight fashion shops will take part with fashion shows throughout the day from 11am to 5pm featuring exclusive ranges from the latest summer collections for ladies, gent's children's wear and golf apparel.

The volunteers from the Charity Shop will present their own Fashion Extravaganza from 2-3pm compared by the shop manager Helen Stokes and promises to be great fun with designer wear at incredible prices, donated by generous supporters of Madrugada. To find out more about the charity visit: www.madrugada-portugal.com

Stands for the Spring Fair have been booked by many local traders selling everything from bric-a-brac, handmade silver jewellery, handbags, outdoor furniture and toys plus gadgets, kites and other goodies from Bangla.

Others will be selling interior design packages, bedspreads and health care insurance. The fair will feature 50 exhibitors in all and the organiser Liz Ryan says that there are just a few spaces left. A stand at the fair costs only €40. For further details e-mail: liz.vista@gmail.com or phone 917943935.

Entrance for visitors is €5, which includes a glass of sparkling wine and a raffle ticket for a weekend for four in a luxury apartment at Vila Luz Aparthotel.

To find the venue just drive to Praia da Luz on Sunday, 2nd May and follow the sign posts for Vila Luz Aparthotel.

Richard Bewes OBE, guest speaker

At the International Evangelical Church of the Algarve, Vale Judeu, Loulé Richard will speak during the Sunday service that begins at 10:30am.on 2nd May.

The Reverend Richard Bewes is well known to thousands of BBC Today programme listeners for his pithy and relevant 'Thought for the Day' talks. He is the author of over twenty books, including 'The Lamb Wins', the best-seller title 'The Top 100 Questions' and most recently 'Beginning the Christian Life' and '150 Pocket Thoughts'.

Richard served for 21 years as the Rector of the famous All Souls Church in Langham Place, London, and after stepping down in November 2004 was awarded the OBE by the Queen in 2005. As a charismatic Christian communicator Richard is in demand all over the world for his bible teaching.

Born of missionary parents and raised in the lower slopes of Mount Kenya, he has a lifelong passion to communicate the good news of Jesus Christ in contemporary culture.

We are delighted and privileged to welcome Richard back as our guest speaker and would like to invite you to join us as we listen to this inspiring speaker when he shares with us his powerful and creative thoughts on Christianity today.

The St. Petersburg Declaration

There will be a Literary Meeting and Book Presentaion on Saturday, 24th April at 5.00pm of English surgeon and author John Piper's latest book The St. Petersburg Declaration, which follows his first novel, Motherkillers. Presented by art teacher Manuela Vale in the Meeting Room (*Sala Polivalente*) of the Municipal Library of Lagoa, the evening will include an opening cocktail and autograph session. For more information tel. 282380436 or visit: www.bmlagoa.com.

Donald Frank Rees 1918 - 2010

Donald Rees OBE, has died in the Algarve at the age of 91.

He was a much-acclaimed engineer and businessman. Ironically, many of his innovative engineering achievements remained hidden underground. Not so his devotion to his family, which throughout his career was always paramount.

He was born in South Wales, the youngest of three children. His father was an ambitious Cockney with a great sense of fun. His Scottish mother was warm and easy-going, a balancing force. Donald inherited all these characteristics.

Growing up in Cheltenham and London, during the aftermath of the First World War, the hardships of the Great Depression and the approach of World War II. He revelled in the advent of domestic electricity, wind-up phones, Al Jolson on the wireless and dancing the night away to big bands in the Hammersmith Palais.

A mischievous student at Cheltenham College, he had hopes of studying engineering at Cambridge University. At his father's suggestion though, he opted instead for the 'university of life', a decision he never regretted.

During World War II, he commanded a unit of the Royal Engineers in India, Burma and Malaya. On returning home, he found that his father's business had been decimated by wartime exhaustion and austerity. With typical boldness, he took on the challenge of reinvigorating and modernising the company.

Describing Mary Smith, as an "utterly gorgeous" nurse working in the General Hospital in Brighton, they married in 1947 and moved to their first "dream house" in Horley, Surrey. Donald and Mary had six sons.

Meanwhile, Donald was expanding his father's business by undertaking public works underground as well as at street level. The company developed innovative methods of restoring old, and in some cases bomb-damaged, sewage systems. Donald and his colleagues developed 'no-dig' tunnelling techniques based on the Rees Mini-Tunnel; they also pioneered the use of close circuit television cameras in subterranean investigations.

As the leader in its field, the company's services and products were much sought after, not only across the UK and the Channel Islands, but as far afield as the United States, South America and Southeast Asia.

As a liveryman and later Master of the Worshipful Company of Paviors, a Fellow of the Institution of Public Health Engineers and a Companion of the Institution of Civil Engineers, Donald was adept at cultivating business contacts and marketing. In addition to an impressive array of awards, including the Queen's Award for Industry, he was honoured with an OBE for his services to British exports.

Attracted by its mild climate, Donald and Mary built a charming house in the Algarve, near Porches, for their retirement in 1983. They were early members of the fledgling Afpop, and Donald was a regular supporter of Royal British Legion events in the Algarve. After 55 years of marriage, Mary died here in 2002. She had been Donald's constant inspiration, and he often told friends: "not a day goes by in which I do not feel her loss sorely."

After a period of increasingly poor health and with family at his bedside, Donald died at home near Algoz in the early hours of 18th April, the day before his 63rd wedding anniversary. He will be sorely missed by his six sons and their families, including 11 grandchildren and three great-grandchildren. *Len Port*

Dinner and Quiz Night

On 16th April the Hotel Garbe in Armacão de Pêra hosted an Indian Dinner and Quiz Night for the Albufeira AFPOP group. Diamond Cleaning Services (Albufeira) sponsored the prize draw which allowed funds to be donated to the Albufeira Bombeiros. Following an excellent meal in The Raj Restaurant the grey cells were tested by Lynn and Martin's Quiz and after a closely fought contest the prizes were split between two teams, both agreeing to forego a tie break question.

Int. School São Lourenço offers schooling

International School São Lourenço is offering schooling for foreign families stranded in the Algarve

For any children missing school in their homeland, the International School São Lourenço is offering the opportunity of placement in its classes, until the situation is reestablished and families can travel back to their countries.

Since last Thursday, (15th April) numerous families have been stranded in the Algarve region due to the travel restrictions imposed to a major part of the European airspace, following a volcanic ash emission from a volcano in Iceland. Today alone Faro Airport had to cancel 75 flights to European destinations.

If you require the schooling services for your children or know anyone who might, contact the school on 289 398 328

The 200th Anniversary of the lines of Torres Vedras

Did you know that the Duke of Wellington was an Irishman? On 22nd May the British Embassy is organising a roughly 10 km walk along the Lines from Quinta do Vale do Corvo, starting at 10:30am to Monte Socorro (Wellington's main signalling station), and back for lunch and a visit to Quinta do Vale do Corvo, which had served as a strategic retreat and provided logistical support for resistance groups. The walk will be expertly guided by Clive Gilbert.

If you are interested, please contact Cristina Ferreira at the British Embassy by Friday, 23rd April. The walk is free, lunch and the trip to Quinta do Vale do Corvo costs €25, with children for free. You can contact Cristina by e-mail: cristina.ferreira@fco.gov.uk or tel: +351 213 924 025.

All Saints Charity Golf Day

Friday, April 30th sees the second Charity Golf Day organised by the All Saints Anglican Church, Algarve, and held at Pestana's Vale da Pinta course.

Last year's event was a great success, and despite the economic climate we expect to do equally well this year.

As a Registered Charity in Portugal, we use our income to benefit others as well as ourselves. Those beneficiaries include local families in Almancil as well as Church's in Rwanda and America. This Golf Day is particularly aimed at raising funds to enable us to obtain our own place of worship and outreach centre. (Currently, we share the ASCA building in Almancil.)

We would be most grateful for any support that you are able to offer - both financial and golfing! You can find out all about us by visiting our website: www.allsaintsalgarve.org, where you will also find an application form for the Golf Day AND a 'Donate' button, via PayPal.

Enjoy a game of golf while rasing funds fo a good cause.

The opinions expressed here are those of our readers and not necessarily of The Portugal News. The editor reserves the right to edit letters or refuse publication. Send your letters, which must include your name and full postal address (even if you wish to remain anonymous on the page), and should be under 300 words, to The Portugal News, Apartado 13, 8401-901 Lagoa. E-mail address: letters@theportugalnews.com

End of the world nigh?

SIR, Can someone please confirm that the end of the world is nigh, or have I just had a nightmare?

After four months of being rained to death, then my recording work stopped by high altitude volcanic debris, followed by a lightning strike that turned my router into a real solid state, and putting my website service out of action, plus three sections of wall supporting river banks collapsing, I was already in a nervous state when the giant rat appeared.

It was a metre long! I swear I gave up the drug taking years ago, and I hadn't just got back from the pub. This rat had a rope-like tail about 18 inches long, curved up at the end. The rest of the body and head was maybe a bit longer than the tail, but not much. It looked like a rat and moved like a rat. If it was a rat then, quite frankly, I quit.

I've had something like a cross between a small polar bear and a badger on my verandah. Straight bushy tail, shortish front legs, rather sweet face. And, some time back, we had a most unusual beast trot in front of us. It had a face like a cat, and a body like a very small brontosaurus. That beast was almost a metre long.

The outback is certainly varied in this part of the world, and I knew Portugal was a bit backward in parts, but even I didn't think we still lived in the Jurassic time zone. What was this modern day brontosaurus? And was that other thing really a giant rat? If it was, then all I can say is, we've got to stick together on this. Don't leave me in the front line!

JOHN CLARE, Arao

Abandoned puppies

Just over two weeks ago, our neighbour, walking in a remote, quiet place, heard small cries. She could not reach the place, it was a steep bank with prickly bushes and a stream at the bottom. She came back for us, and we went out in the car. We found a tightly tied up sack, containing five puppies, roughly 2-3 days old. They were shivering and dehydrated, and we spent the next couple of days trying to keep them alive. We lost two, sadly. But the other three are thriving and are approximately 18 days old. Whatever unspeakable apology for a human being did this did not mean these puppies to be found. They were dumped not far from the old marble factory on the Moncarapacho road.

One appears to be a perfect little Golden Retriever, another a little Rottweiler and the third, a small black Labrador! We do not know what they will look like in 6 months, but they are gorgeous and feeding well.

We need loving homes where the pups will live with a family, not tied up on a short rope for life. We have a large bunch of (rescued) dogs and cats of our own, and do not feel we can keep any more. Age is against us! Without the help of the wonderful Lourdes, placing pups in good homes becomes more and more difficult. They are obviously not ready to go yet, but it would be great to have good homes lined up.

Please help if you can. I can be contacted by e-mail at: jcdearden@gmail.com.

CHRISTINE DEARDEN, By e-mail

Diversity – or perversity?

It was with sadness and shock that we read of the proposed ALLLOVE 2010 lesbian, gay, bisexual and transsexual festival planned for May 15/16 at the Fatacil Showground in Lagoa.

Organiser Hugo Pereira says 'we don't want to offend in any way', but the whole concept is offensive to many Portuguese residents , including those of us who hold Christian beliefs based on the Bible, which clearly states that homosexuality, or any perverted sexual activity is wrong.

Whilst believing this, we also recognise that every man is created in God's image and that every person has full rights to freedom, life and choice of lifestyle. This is the essence of a free society, and with freedom comes tolerance. However, tolerance requires boundaries, and these appear to be becoming increasingly blurred or even eroded completely when it comes to so-called 'sexual diversity'.

David Canelas, the PR officer, said that although the Lagoa town hall was receptive and supportive of the festival, 'others greeted it with resistance'. He maintained this was because some people are not prepared for it – maybe it is offensive to them also.

The reason given for hosting the festival is that it will bring business to the Algarve and temporarily boost local tourism.

Do we, as residents in the Algarve, really want to encourage an influx of tourists who are only interested in 'sexual diversity' as entertainment, especially when this includes a 'red light' district, gaydrome, sex shops and a symbolic luxury gay wedding? What messages do all these and 'other interesting concepts' give to children and young people?

Maybe the publicity surrounding this event will spur on those who so far have been undecided to lobby their MPs to vote against legalising civil unions in Portugal.

TONY & LOIS HERRINGTON, By e-mail

Dog attacks

SIR, Why do owners of dangerous dogs have such a casual attitude towards the safety of others?

I have had the misfortune to witness the shocking aftermath of several dog fights recently, and each case was easily avoidable. In the first instance, a Canadian neighbour was walking her gentle bearded collie on a beach near Ferragudo. Two dogs swooped down from the rocks, chased him into the water and proceeded to savage him, holding his head underwater in an attempt to drown him. The owner was badly bitten on the hand while trying to intervene, and the dog was left seriously traumatised and bleeding, with a multitude of deep injuries on his leg and back which needed immediate surgical attention and many stitches.

The owner of the vicious dogs, a local expat, was deeply apologetic, but it wasn't the first time her pets had inflicted serious injury. They had made an equally vicious and unprovoked attack on another neighbour's elderly greyhound just a few months before. So why were the dogs off the lead?

In the same week, our local vet treated three dogs which had been savagely attacked in separate unprovoked incidents, and in each case the owner of the attacker claimed that their pet was "usually all right with other dogs" and that the incident happened "so quickly and without warning". "Usually" and "all right" are not acceptable. The victims in each case were left with their sides torn open, and one – a tiny little thing - had its spleen hanging out when it arrived at the vet's. The victims have all survived, but not without a huge amount of pain and trauma to both owner and dog. Needless to say, the vet was utterly exasperated.

We are not talking about trained fighters or even strays here. The attackers in each case have been dogs with supposedly good homes which happen to have a dangerous set of jaws and which, for some unknown reason, have taken an instant dislike to another, more vulnerable, dog.

Owners of dangerous dogs seem to believe that their pet is a big softie at home and is therefore safe to roam freely in public. But even if the dog is friendly 99% of the time, its bite is a weapon, and that remaining 1% could have fatal consequences.

Under Portuguese law, a dangerous dog is officially defined as "an animal that due to its size or aggressive nature, as well as jaw strength, could cause serious injury or death to people or other animals". It must be kept muzzled and on a metre-long lead when in public, and the penalties for contravening the law are severe. If your dog causes injury to another animal or person, you not only get a hefty fine and a criminal record, but your pet may be destroyed.

Unfortunately, the police are often not alerted to a dangerous dog until after an attack has taken place. The law offers no protection unless we, as a community, are prepared to enforce it. So if we see a potentially dangerous dog – particularly a Rottweiler, Doberman, Alsatian, Rhodesian Ridgeback, Pitbull or similar - off the lead and without a muzzle, we must politely remind the owners about the law, and if they pay no attention, report the dog to the police before it has a chance to inflict harm. It only takes a phone call. Let's not wait until our precious dog or, for that matter, a child, becomes a victim. After what I've seen in the past couple of weeks, believe me, the risk is not worth taking.

NAME SUPPLIED, By e-mail

IMF foresees 0.3% growth, 11% unemployment this year

The International Monetary Fund forecast on Wednesday that Portugal's economy will grow 0.3 percent this year, less than one-third of the expansion seen for the Eurozone and less than half the government's estimate.

The IMF, presenting its World Economic Outlook in Washington, also forecast Portuguese unemployment of 11 percent in 2010 with a drop to 10.3 percent next year.

Lisbon estimates a jobless rate of 9.8 percent for this year.

In response to an emailed question from Lusa, the IMF's Jörg Decressian downplayed the potential threat of Portuguese and Greek financial difficulties to the Eurozone, saying it was much more dependent on events worldwide.

"The future of Europe will be linked much more to what happens in the rest of the world than to what happens in Greece and Portugal", he said.

TPN/Lusa

Portuguese for Beginners

LESSON 31

Regular verbs in -AR in the Present Simple

➪ **Put the verbs in brackets in "Presente Simples do Indicativo".**

1. O Rui ____ (**cozinhar**) pratos deliciosos.
2. A que horas ____ (**terminar**) a peça?
3. Todos os anos os meus amigos ____ (**marcar**) férias em Agosto. Eles ____ (**viajar**) de carro e ____ (**arrendar**) uma casa. Eles nunca ____ (**ficar**) em hotéis e também nunca ____ (**andar**) de avião porque ____ (**ser**) mais caro e menos divertido.
4. Tu ____ (**gostar**) de música clássica?
5. A família ____ (**jantar**) e depois ____ (**arrumar**) a cozinha. Na sala, os pais ____ (**conversar**) e os filhos ____ (**jogar**) às cartas.
6. Durante as férias, eu ____ (**usar**) roupas muito informais e simples.
7. *PREÇO DO PÃO* ____ (**aumentar**) AMANHÃ.
8. Os mecânicos ____ (**reparar**) avarias nos veículos automóveis.
9. Nós ____ (**almoçar**) e ____ (**lanchar**) na cantina da escola.
10. Quem ____ (**cantar**) esta canção?

➪ **Match the verbs on the left with the most correct words on the right. Then write complete sentences by conjugating the verb in "Presente Simples do Indicativo" - *the subject is given in brackets*.**

1. engraxar (*tu*)	**a)** o computador
2. conjugar (*ela*)	**b)** cachimbo
3. aspirar (*você*)	**c)** as janelas
4. pendurar (*eu*)	**d)** a roupa
5. desligar (*nós*)	**e)** um *e-mail*
6. lavar (*elas*)	**f)** os sapatos
7. fechar (*elas*)	**g)** o casaco
8. apagar (*ele*)	**h)** uma oração
9. regar (*vocês*)	**i)** a luz
10. rezar (*ele*)	**j)** os tapetes
11. fumar (*eles*)	**k)** o jardim
12. enviar (*eu*)	**l)** um verbo

Please send your completed exercises with a **STAMPED, SELF-ADDRESSED ENVELOPE**, to me: Emília Rosendo at **The Portugal News** and I will return them corrected. **The Portugal News • Apartado 13 • 8401-901 Lagoa. To view/download past lessons go to: http://www.epaper.theportugalnews.com**

Renewable energy saving €500mn yearly in fossil fuel imports

Renewable energy production has cut Portugal's costs of imported fossil fuels by €500 million annually, a senior official said Wednesday.

"Every year we import €500 million less in fossil fuels due to the fact we produce renewable energy", Carlos Zorrinho, the state secretary for energy, told a renewable energy conference in Lisbon.

He discounted criticism that renewable energies were still more expensive than traditional power sources, saying the time would come when the "reverse" would be the case.

Zorrinho also underlined Portugal's pioneering role in developing renewable energy technology, forecasting a horizon where Portugal would benefit from lower energy costs, the export of its technology and the creation of new jobs in the sector.

The government, he added, was open to discussing all energy options, including nuclear power, so long as the discussions were based on an analysis of all the pros and cons.

TPN/Lusa

How to take care of your laptop

Times are tough, and even with falling prices, the purchase of a laptop computer constitutes a serious investment for the average consumer. Give your laptop a couple more years with these simple tips.

There are a lot of ways to extend the life of your notebook, most of which are very simple and which just about anyone can do. If you take care of your laptop from year one, you'll be thanking yourself heartily during years three, four, five and beyond. And even if you're already in the latter years, it's never too late to start.

Use Anti-Virus/Anti-Spyware Software

Most laptops ship with at least some sort of anti-virus software like Norton or McAfee, but these frequently expire after a short time. Viruses and spyware can be crippling to a computer, and have a tendency to build up over time and get worse. Running weekly scans can nip these problems in the bud. If you don't feel like paying for a subscription service, there are plenty of free ones, such as Avira AntiVirus.

Keep Your Laptop Up To Date

Beyond your anti-virus software, which should be kept strictly updated, both Microsoft and Apple offer regular updates for their operating systems to correct bugs and plug up vulnerabilities. Updating your software regularly will help keep your laptop in working order and stop many problems before they can threaten the usability or potentially the life of your computer.

Defragment Your Hard Drive

When you save something on your computer, it gets physically written on a portion of your hard drive. As time goes on and your hard drive fills, this storage becomes somewhat disorganized, and your hardware must work harder and spend longer to find data. Defragmenting your hard drive rearranges the data into an organized structure.

Defragmenting regularly will extend the life of your hard drive as well as make everything on your computer run just that much smoother.

Keep 5-10% of Your Hard Drive Empty

By the time you've had your laptop for a few years, your hard drive will seem impossibly small. It's important, however, to keep at least a small percentage of your hard drive empty at all times. Operating systems use a portion of your hard drive space for Virtual Memory, and if you don't leave them any room your computer will slow down tremendously, potentially overheating or crashing under the stress. Key life-extending features like System Restore require empty space to function as well.

Use a Surge Protector When Charging

Surge protectors help protect your computer from an electrical surge in your socket, such as might come from a bolt of lightning or a large appliance turning on. Without this, your laptop is vulnerable to being short-circuited and could fry after any surge. Surge protectors are extremely cheap and can be useful too, as most have multiple outlets.

Use Older Software

Often software will come out with a new version that is just the same thing with more graphics, which can be a drain on an older computer. For non-essential items like chat programs and the like, sometimes using an older version can help your computer run smoothly and error free. If you want to try this, check out http://www.oldapps.com, a great free resource for this.

Take Care of the LCD

LCD's on laptops are designed to outlast the usefulness of the laptop they're connected to, but can be easily damaged by a simple careless mistake. Don't lift the laptop up by the display (it will bend) and be easy on the hinges. Only clean the display with something soft and never store anything under the LCD when it's closed. These precautions seem obvious but you basically need only treat the LCD with care and it will last for as long as you need it to.

Take Care of the Keyboard

Like the displays, with proper care a keyboard should easily outlast the life of the laptop, but a silly accident can render it useless. Many laptops today are "spill resistant", but I wouldn't recommend testing it – don't drink around your laptop. Don't eat around it either, as crumbs or grease can fall between the keys and cause malfunctions. Hit the keys gently and dust them once in a while and your keyboard should last year after year.

Be Aware of Temperature

Extremes in temperature can be extremely dangerous for a laptop. I have mentioned that heat is a battery killer, but the display can be damaged by extreme conditions as well. Using the laptop when the environment is too hot can cause failures from overheating, and using it in an environment that is too wet and humid can cause similar malfunctions. Modern rugged laptops excluded, your laptop is meant to be used on a desk in your home or office. Keep it somewhere temperature controlled and this will never be a problem.

Watch Your Fan

Your fan is responsible for cooling your CPU so that it doesn't overheat in normal conditions. A large number of problems related to overheating are solved simply by moving the laptop to a new position where the fan's exhaust is not blocked. Even if there is nothing large obstructing it, it's important to make sure dust doesn't build up in the fan as that can cause overheating too. Make sure your fan is clear to fan away excess heat and your laptop will live longer, guaranteed.

Location

Take extreme care when using your laptop on the beach. The idea of doing your work or carrying out email correspondence while on holiday can be an inviting idea, but do so with extreme caution. Did you know that many digital cameras, electronic devices and computers die on the beach? Blowing sand can be the kiss of death to the fragile makeup of an electronic device. Sand is even worse than household dust because of its gritty nature. The beach's sand knows how to mysteriously embed itself into everything that appears along its shoreline such as your shoes, hair, picnic lunches and most devastating of all – your computer.

Protect Your Laptop from Jolts with a Case

Laptops are sensitive instruments, and they are never more vulnerable than when they are traveling. Constant bumping and shaking can cause parts to shift and can permanently damage the laptop. Using a cushioned laptop bag will preserve it from the shocks of travel, and storing it in a laptop bag when not in use can help prevent any number of accidents. This is virtually the only item in the list that isn't free, but it's a small price to protect your computer and the bag can last for a lifetime of laptops.

Use External Parts

Using external hardware, such as a monitor, hard drive, keyboard, mouse, speakers, etc., can help extend the life of your internal hardware by preventing wear and tear. At the same time, it can provide a more comfortable experience at home. While this can be expensive, if you regularly use your laptop you may find the investment worth your while.

Follow these simple tips and you easily will extend the life of your laptop.

Kurt Pardon • I.T. Director
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Peugeot RCZ becomes Audi TT rival

Peugeot RCZ is a pleasant surprise in all the important areas, with its accurate and weighty steering, good brakes and ride control. It delivers an impressive balance between sporting firmness and urban-speed comfort.

The French firm, on a roll with a slew of much improved products, decided to pull the trigger on a show car that stunned the critics - say hello to the RCZ.

Visually it's unlike anything the company has produced. Keen to rekindle interest after a few lacklustre mainstream models and the perceived abandoning of the GTi sub-brand, Peugeot has played a blinder.

It's rare for any of the fancy styling details of a concept car to reach the production version. The finger is usually pointed at the extra cost or complexity of such things. Peugeot thought the RCZ's 'double-bubble' roof, complex rear screen and associated metal roof rails were worth saving. The decision was the right one, as those features have rightly become a major talking point.

Regardless of what direction you approach the RCZ, there's only one word to describe it: bold. Granted, head-on it's unmistakably a Peugeot. Visually the car's nose is an evolution of the corporate family face, but its squat stance and compact dimensions have predictably drawn comparisons with Audi's TT.

The two cars are similar in terms of packaging but that's where the similarities end. Price-wise the Peugeot undercuts the Audi by a significant margin and, well, it's got that funky rear screen. Along with its flowing curves and clever pop-up rear wing, the RCZ is every inch a supermodel and puts the plain Jane TT in the shade. Who'd have thought it?

Looks will only get you so far, though. Along with rediscovering its style mojo, Peugeot has pulled out all the stops in the driving department. Once famed for its hot hatches, recent Peugeots have displayed a more mature approach to ride and handling. It's fair to say the policy hasn't pleased the grass roots fans, but with the RCZ Peugeot has made a big step back in the right direction.

A pleasant surprise in all the important areas - ride, comfort, refinement, driveability, performance - the RCZ points to a healthy future for the brand. With its accurate and weighty steering, good brakes and ride control, itself delivering an impressive balance between sporting firmness and urban-speed comfort, there's much for the enthusiastic driver to like. In keeping with the car's low-slung stance, the driving position offers a wealth of adjustment and the ability to sit low and relaxed inside the snug cabin.

Along with the strides made in the handling department, the car's modest engine line-up also deserves a mention. It's only modest in terms of numbers, with Peugeot obviously keen to keep its halo model a bit special.

From launch there's a choice between two petrol motors and a diesel. The entry-level car gets a 1.6-litre 156 horsepower turbo petrol motor plus there's a 200 horsepower flagship unit. On the diesel front there's a 163 horsepower, 2.0-litre HDi engine. All come with a six-speed manual gearbox.

What's abundantly clear from a drive in the two high power cars is that the diesel offers a more relaxed experience than the racy petrol unit. Anyone seeking out a compact, affordable mini-GT will love the HDi-powered RCZ. There's no need for a constant flurry of gearchanges, and you can take full advantage of the engine's ample torque reserves for effortless overtaking or trickling along in city traffic.

Switching to the flagship petrol-powered RCZ reveals a more racy character. If you like working an engine hard, you'll soon warm to the 200 horsepower THP unit's willingness to rev. Combined with the car's short and snappy manual gearshift, the car's playful nature allows you to push hard on challenging roads with the utmost confidence. It also sounds good, too.

Good value, good looking and good to drive? It might sound too good to be true but with the RCZ Peugeot has managed to pull the rabbit out of the proverbial hat. Unlike the infamous magic trick, the result is down to hard work, dedication and creative bravery.

The Peugeot RCZ will arrive to Portugal in the beginning of June and promises to be one of the must-have coupés of the year, following the market's trend of increasing purchases of sport coupés.

(Source: PA/TPN)

Model: Peugeot RCZ GT HDi 163
Engine: 2.0-litre diesel unit developing 163bhp
Transmission: 6-speed manual transmission delivering power to the front wheels.
Performance: Top speed 220kph, 0-100kph 8.2seconds.
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An amazing and enchanting

Sea kayaking, Abel Tasman National Park, New Zealand.

When arriving in a new country, you might be welcomed with a firm hand shake or a polite bow, maybe even a kiss on each cheek. Having a towering, tattooed man press his nose against mine, however, has to be one of the more unusual - and enjoyable - greetings I have experienced.

In New Zealand, this exchange meant I was no longer considered a visitor but rather as one of the people of the land. The 'hongi', a traditional Maori welcome, made an interesting start to an unforgettable trip to the country also known as Land of the Long White Cloud, after an exhausting journey through several time zones, as Air New Zealand flights from Britain to Auckland on the North Island go via either Hong Kong or Los Angeles.

We eased the jet-lag with a 45-minute drive to the west of the city, to the dramatic coast of Karekare where thunderous waves pound the iron-black sand.

After a bracing walk along the dunes, which featured in Jane Campion's Oscar-winning movie The Piano, we headed to nearby Piha and the Waitakere ranges, a stunning wilderness area, for a lesson in nature, and even sampled some plants which provided nourishment for Maori in the past.

This warm and friendly race welcomes strangers with open arms and is keen to preserve its heritage and traditions.

Our visit was rounded off with a 'hangi' - a feast of meats and vegetables cooked using heated rocks buried in a pit oven, and it was a perfect introduction to New Zealand.

Auckland itself is superb for fine dining: One of the best restaurants is the award-winning Dine by world-famous chef Peter Gordon at Sky City Grand Hotel. Oysters, scallops and of course, lamb, adorn an eclectic menu.

Auckland is also known as the City of Sails, so our next adventure was sailing from the massive marina to Waiheke Island on a 50ft yacht.

Pride of Auckland operates a fleet of sailing yachts where visitors - under the watchful eye of an expert crew - experience the hands-on the thrill of sailing in one of the world's most famous bays.

Huge gusts of wind might have tipped our boat over had it not been for the intervention of the skipper, so we arrived at the island's main jetty looking slightly bedraggled.

I was greeted warmly, however, by the delightful and informative guide Jenny, a retired midwife who personally delivered many of the 8,000 permanent residents on Waiheke.

The island, which can also be reached from Auckland by a 45-minute, and rather less eventful, ferry ride, is home to wineries, craft shops, beautiful gardens and beaches, and olive groves where tourists can sample some of the finest oil in the world. It is little wonder that around 3,500 people also have holiday homes there.

Our next adventure was a 45-minute flight from Auckland to Hawkes Bay on the east coast of North Island and home to the oldest wine-growing area in New Zealand. It has more than 70 vineyards, around 40 with cellar doors offering tastings and a-la-carte dining.

It also boasts a stunning coastline formed from soft, grey, papa rock said to be some 15 million years old, that is slowly being eroded by the sea, which makes the impressive and unusual cliffs.

Cape Kidnappers, a breathtaking headland, garnered its name after the Maori tried to kidnap one of Captain Cook's crew in October 1769.

At Cape Kidnappers Gannet Reserve, home to the largest mainland gannet colony in the world where Australasian gannets have nested since the 1870s, I was able to get up close to the thousands of birds quite unperturbed by human visitors.

Near to the gannet colony lies Mangarara Station, a sheep farm of more than 150 years. The countryside hereabouts is steep hillside, dry and barren after years of intensive farming, but in partnership with the Air New Zealand Environment Trust, a programme of regenerative planting should restore the land to its original glory.

After a day with the gannets, we visited Elephant Hill Estate Winery which boasts a stunning restaurant as well as world-class wines. Nestled in rolling green hills, it is one of the most unusual buildings in the area; square, flat-roofed with walls clad in copper panels which have turned a bluey green.

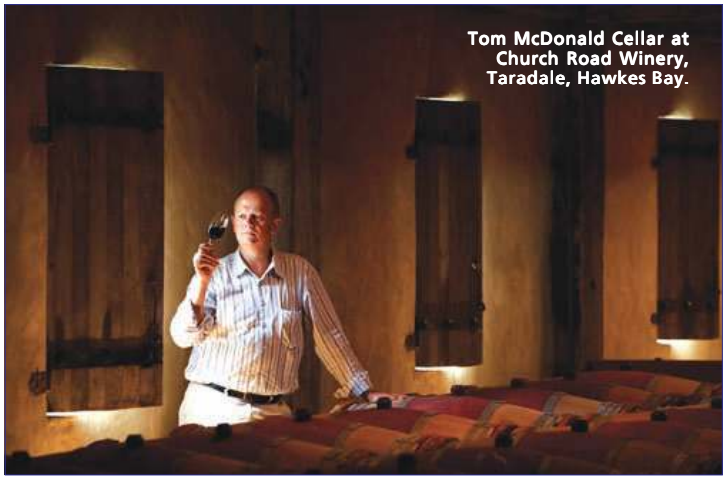
Our next stop was the city of Nelson, on the northern shores of South Island, and at just under a two-hour flight from Auckland or from Hawkes Bay, it is said to be at the very centre of New Zealand.

It is also the sunniest place in the country, protected by mountains on all sides, and is renowned for its art galleries and museums, but I was there to experience a bit of outdoors adventure in the nearby Abel Tasman National Park.

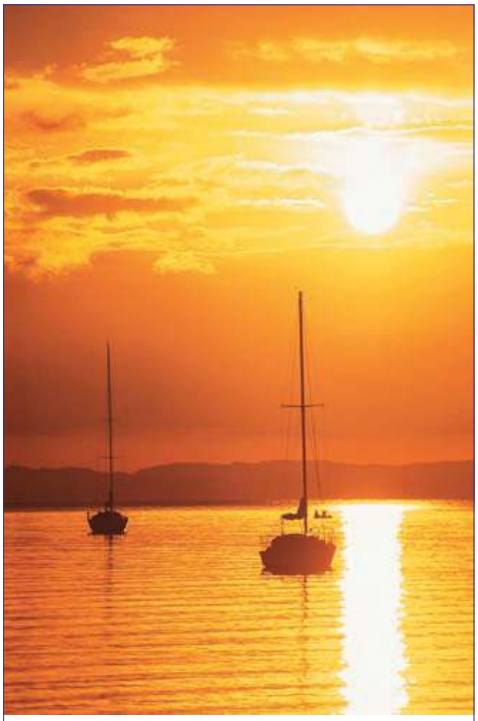
Dutch explorer Abel Tasman became the first European explorer to sight New Zealand in 1642, but I wasn't there for the history - I was trying my hand at sea kayaking followed by a forest walk along the park's well-trodden path.

It has to be one of the most enjoyable and exhilarating ways to experience what the area has to offer, and the views over the Tasman Bay from the top of the path were unrivalled.

After a full day outdoors, and feeling rather exhausted, I headed to the comfort of my hotel in Nelson, Warwick House, which was built in 1854, and is a fine example of early Victorian opulence and grandeur. It has been lovingly restored and offers a unique stay in the plushest of surroundings; swags, tails and all.



Tom McDonald Cellar at Church Road Winery, Taradale, Hawkes Bay.



Yachts seen at sunset in Matiatia Bay, Waiheke Island.

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tour of New Zealand

Cape Kidnappers, gannet colony, New Zealand.

For those seeking a cultured experience, visits to galleries, vineyards and even a chance to meet local celebrated artist Anna Leary, are easily arranged.

Noel Kennedy, an expert guide from New Zealand Nature Tours plans a personal and authentic itinerary for the most discerning visitors.

To make the most of a visit to New Zealand, you really need to start planning in advance. Air New Zealand's route network includes 26 domestic destinations - covering North and South Islands - and people use the service like they would a bus.

Just buy your ticket, check in automatically, put your luggage on a conveyor belt and hop on the plane without a queue in sight - and in every destination, you will find something which amazes and enchants.

Travel facts

Victoria Mitchell flew as a guest of Tourism New Zealand with Air New Zealand which offers returns flights ex-Heathrow from £884/€1,001, incl taxes, until June 15, 2010. For more info. go to: www.airnewzealand.co.uk and www.newzealand.com.

Air New Zealand reservations: 00 44 (0)800 028 4149 and www.airnewzealand.co.uk.

Operators to New Zealand include Austravel, which offers a nine-night Auckland, Rotorua and Napier self-drive tour from £1,599/€1,811, which includes three nights' accom in Auckland (at SkyCity Grand), three nights in Rotorua and Napier, seven days' car hire and return flights with Air NZ. Price also includes day tour of Waiheke Island, a Maori village hangi and concert and a food and wine tour of Hawke's Bay.

Austravel reservations tel: 00 44 (0)800 988 4834 and at: www.austravel.com.

Details of her adventures available at:

:: Trips to Karekare on west coast at www.navigatortours.co.nz.
:: Pride of Auckland sailing at www.explorenz.co.nz.
:: Waiheke Island tours at www.ananda.co.nz.
:: Hawke's Bay trips to see gannets at www.kidnapperssafaris.co.nz.
:: Elephant Hill Winery at www.elephanthill.co.nz.
:: Kayaking in Abel Tasman at www.abeltasmankayaks.co.nz.
:: Tailored tours of Nelson with Noel Kennedy, info@newzealandnaturetours.com.
:: Warwick House boutique hotel at www.warwickhouse.co.nz.

Victoria Mitchell

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Daily

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Daily

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Daily

GUARDA
Museu Municipal de Arte Moderna Abel Manta - The collection includes works by Carlos Botelho, Júlio Resende, Menez, PaulaRego, Vespeiro, António Dacosta and many others - Open: Tuesday to Sunday from 10h00 to 12h30 and from 14h00 to 17h00 - Free entrance - Rua Direita, 45, Gouveia - 238 493 648

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April 23

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April 24

PORTO
Magic of the Dance - Ticket prices: From €15 to €48 - Coliseu do Porto - 11h30 - 707 234 234

April 24 to June 27

GUIMARÃES
Exhibition by Fernando Brito - Palácio Vila Flor- Price: €1 (€0.50 w/ discount) - Av. D. Afonso Henriques, 701 - 253 424 700 - www.ccvf.pt

April 25

PORTO
Concert Promenade - Classic Music/Opera - Coliseu do Porto - 11h30 - 707 234 234

April 29

PORTO
Concert by Ney Matogrosso -- Coliseu do Porto - 22h00 - Ticket prices: From €20 to €50 - 707 234 234

Until June 13

PORTO
Exhibition by Lourdes Castro and Manuel Zimbro: À Luz da Sombra' (Shadow Light) - Serralves Museum - Rua D. João de Castro, 210 - 226 156 584

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July 17

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CENTRE

Daily

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LISBON
Oceanarium
Spectacular design by Peter Chermayeff, it is one of Europe's biggest oceanarium - Park of Nations - 10h00 to 18h00 - 218 917 002
Influxcontemporary
A museum dedicated to African Contemporary Art - Open from Wednesday to Saturday from 14h00 to 19h00 - Rua Fernando Vaz, 20B - T. 918 501 234 - ivwww.influxcontemporary.com

CASCAIS
Cascais Cultural Centre - Concerts, shows, exhibitions, & other events. - shops, coffee shop & terrace - Open: 10h00-18h00 (Closed Mon) - Av. Rei Humberto II de Itália - 214 848 900

ESTORIL
Casino Estoril - Praça José Teodoro dos Santos - 214 667 700 - Info.estoril@estoril-sol.com

April 24 & 25

LISBON
Promenade Concerts Cycle 'Musics of the World' by the Orquestra do Algarve - 24th April: 22h00 at Centro Cultural de Belém (Small Auditorium) 'Dias da Música em Belém' (Music Days in Belém) - *Works by: Leonid Chizhik* - Conductor: Osvaldo Ferreira - Soloist: Leonid Chizhik (Piano) - 25th April: 19h00 at Centro Cultural de Belém (Grand Auditorium) 'Dias da Música em Belém' (Music Days in Belém) - *Works by:* Sérgio Azevedo, Manuel de Falla; Conductor: Osvaldo Ferreira; Soloist: António Rosado (Piano) - Tel: 707 303 000

www.theportugalnews.com

April 29

LISBON
Alicia Keys presenting her new album 'The Elements of Freedom' - Sala Atlântico of Atlantic Pavilion - 20h00 - Tickets: See bottom of page.

April 29 and 30

LISBON
International Ballet 5th Gala by Companhia Nacional de Bailado - Teatro Camões - Park of Nations, Passeio do Neptuno - 218 923 470

April 30

LISBON
Madrid's Ballet Flamenco - Coliseu dos Recreios - Ruas das Portas de Stº Antão, 94/98 - 213 240 585

May 1

LISBON
Musical Vila Moleza live
Atlantic Arena of Atlantic Pavilion - 11h00/15h00/19h00 -

Until May 2

LISBON
Exhibition 'Fado com Alma' (Fado with soul) - A Arte da Terra - Rua de Augusto Rosa, nº 40 - 212 745 975

May 11,12,14,15,16

LISBON
Dance Show 'Local Geographic' . Centro Cultural de Belém, Sala de Ensaio - Praça do Império - 213 612 400 - www.ccb.pt

May 13 to 16

LISBON
Béjart Ballet Lausane / Ballet for Life
Original choreography by Maurice Béjart - Coliseu dos Recreios - May 13 to 15 at 21h30; May 16 at 16h00 - Rua das Portas de Stº Antão, 96 - 213 240 580

May 21 to May 30

LISBON
Rock in Rio - Performing are artists like Shakira, Elton John, Muse, Miley Cyrus, Amy MacDonald, D'ZRT

SOUTH

Daily

LAGOS
Charity Shop in Amádena
Charity Shop in what was old supermarket on the square past 'Brody' and 'O Poço' restaurants - LAPS - Lagos Animal Protection Society - 282 687 334

April 23

ALMANCIL
Blood Drive from Mobile Unit at Apolónia Supermarket Car Park - From 10h30 to 13h00 and from 14h30 to 18h00

April 23-25

SILVES
Live Music - 23rd: The Gibson Brothers, Heike Brockmann & Paul Mitchell-Davidson '2 guitars play jazz & latin' from 20h30; 24th: Nu Clear Trio 'Pop, rock, blues & soul' from 20h30; 25th: Banda Atlantica 'Afro latin quartet' from 15h00 - Café Inglês - 282 442 585

April 24

FERRAGUDO
Exhibition - All art lovers are welcome to attend the opening of a new arts emporium in Rua 25 de Abril, just off the main square in Ferragudo, any time between 5pm and 10pm.

April 25

LAGOA
Musical Show 'A tribute to Zeca Afonso' - 21h30 - Free entrance - Auditório Municipal de Lagoa - 282 380 473

FARO
Concert in commemoration of April 25th Revolution - 22h00 - Pontinha Square

April 26 to 30

FARO
15th International Piano Competition Maria Campina - Pedro Ruivo Auditorium of Algarve Regional Conservatory - 289 870 490

April 27

FARO
Concert 'Musics of the World' by the Orquestra do Algarve -10h30 - Teatro das Figuras (Only for the School Community) *Pedagogical Concerts Cycle* 14h30 - EN 125 - 289 888 110

Until April 29

LOULÉ
Painting Exhibition
Maria Baptista at Chá d'Arte art gallery - Largo D. Pedro I, 5-6

April 29

LOULÉ
Liza Silva invites you to the Gallery Studio 21 April Exhibition "Number" by the Algarve Artist Network - The Atelier Gallery studio 21 is situated within the walls of Historic Loulé's arte district aliza@gallerystudio21.com

Until April 30

MONCHIQUE
Exhibition of Paintings by Liz Allen at Caldas de Monchique - Open daily - 282 955 320 - liz@lizallenart. com

www.theportugalnews.com

TAVIRA
Exhibition by António Alonso 'Travels and other Africas' - Tavira Municipal Museum/Palácio da Galeria - 281 320 540

SÃO BRÁS DE ALPORTEL
Exhibition by Raquel Bastos de Sousa Mendes Pereira - Galeria Municipal - Rua Gago Coutinho, nº 1 - 289 841 959

May 2

SILVES
Ride or Walk with a motive at the Silves Tour at 10h00 - Silves Tour is a Charity event and all over 10 years can participate either on a byke or walking - You can register at the Sports Sector of the *CâmaraMunicipal* and *Juntas de Freguesia* of Silves council

Until May 8

LOULÉ
Exhibition 'Intervalo/Nothingness' by Daniel Barroca at Convento Espírito Santo art gallery - R. Vice Almirante Cândico dos Reis - 289 400 642

Until May 12

SÃO BRÁS DE ALPORTEL
Exhibition 'Lightbox' by Gabriel Colaço at Zem Arte - Armazéns de Arte - Open: Daily except Thursday from 13h00 to 22h00 and Friday and Saturday from 13h00 to 1h00

Until May 13

ALMANCIL
Exhibition by Karsten Fuge 'Objects, watercolours and oil paintings' - Inauguration of the exhibition is at 19h00 - Centro Cultural São Lourenço - 2859 395 475

Until May 15

TAVIRA
Sculptures and Drawings by Rui Sanches - Tavira Municipal Museum/Palácio da Galeria - 281 320 540

Until May 23

ÉVORA
Paula Rego 'The Manuel de Brito Collection' – Fórum Eugénio d'Almeida - 266 748 300

Until June 13

ÉVORA
Exhibition 'Oriental Weapons. Rituals of Power' from Jorge Caravana's Collection – Évora Museum - 266 702 604

LISBON
Exhibition by Catarina Dias and Gabriela Albergaria - Museu da Cidade - Campo Grande, 245 - 217 513 200

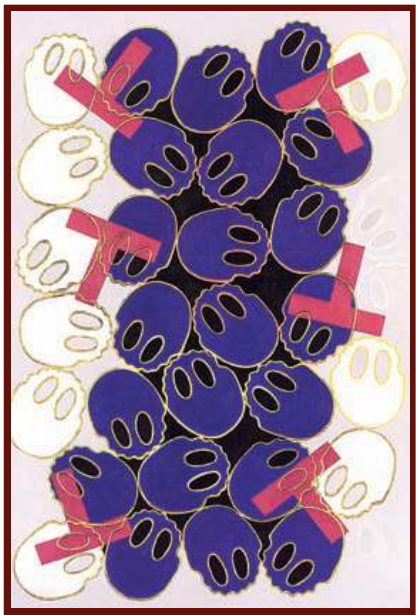
Until June 25

SINES
Exhibition of the Sines Museum archaeologic collections - Sines Museum - Organization: Museu de Sines - 269 632 237 - www.sines.pt

Until July 31

SERPA
Exhibition 'Relógios mecânicos de 1910 a 1970' (Mechanical Clocks from 1910 to 1970) – Museu do Relógio (Clock Museum) - 284 543 194

PREVIEW

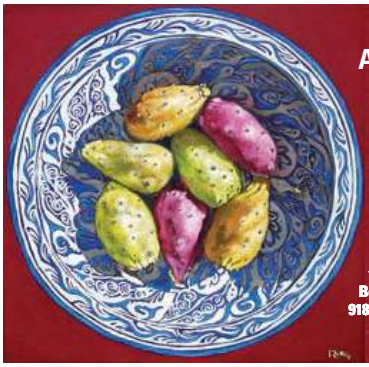


From May 15 to June 24

Painting Exhibition by the renown Spanish artist Juan Martinez at Centro Cultural São Lourenço in Almancil - 289 395 475 - ccsl@iol.pt

Until May 26

Spring Gifts! Ceramic Workshops at Caldas da Rainha - Ceramics workshop org. by Centro de Artes and Museu da Cerâmica in commemoration of the arrival of Spring. It will be divided in two sessions: 1st session: Design and clay modelling. 2nd session: Engobes painting (Application of a thin layer of fluid clay on a piece of earthenware to support or cover a glaze or enamel).
Local: Museu de Cerâmica (1st session) Centro de Artes (2nd session) - Public: Children, secondary school youths and seniors - Tue & Wed: 10h00 - 12h00 / 14h30 - 16h30 - Contacts: 262 840 540 (Rita Elias Sáez) - Centro de Artes on Rua Dr. Ilídio Amado - T. 262 840 540 F. 262 840 549 - centro.artes@cm-caldas-rainha.pt



April 24 & 25

Opening of exhibition 'Perfectly Small Paintings at Perfectly Small Prices' at Galeria Corte-Real, Paderne - The exhibition runs throughout May - Thu-Sun: 11h-17h - Signposted from Ferreiras, Boliqueime & Paderne - 918 980 199 or 912 737 762

For more events, see our Club and Community Pages - pp18-19 and our Classifieds - pp 51-54

Events may be cancelled, delayed or fail to live up to their billing. Send us your events to copy@theportugalnews.com by Tuesday before publication.

TICKETS: Most tickets are available at FNAC and Worten outlets across the country, ATM machines, Abreu agencies, El Corte Inglès, Casa Viola, Ticketline or at the event itself on the night.
Websites: www.pavilhaoatlantico.pt / www.ticketline.pt / www.blueticket.pt / Phone numbers: Ticketline 707 234 234 / 707 780 000

ALGARVE

SBC FORUM ALGARVE
TEL: 289 887 212
22 APR-28 APR

1
Urmel aus dem Eis - Animation PV
(11.45 Sat & Sun) 13.50-15.55-18.00-20.05
From Paris With Love
John Travolta, Jonathan Rhys Meyers
22.10 (00.25 Fri & Sat)
2
A Single Man
Colin Firth, Julianne Moore
18.45-21.00 (23.30 Fri & Sat)
How to Train Your Dragon
Animation PV
(11.00 Sat & Sun) 14.15-16.30
3
I Love You Phillip Morris
Jim Carrey, Ewan McGregor
14.20-16.40-19.00-21.20 (23.45 Fri & Sat)
Cloudy with a Chance of Meatballs
Animation PV - (10.00-12.15 Sat & Sun)
4
Clash of the Titans
Sam Worthington, Liam Neeson
(11.50 Sat & Sun) 14.10-16.30-18.50-21.10 (23.40 Fri & Sat)
5
Kick-Ass
Aaron Johnson, Nicolas Cage
(11.10 Sat & Sun) 13.45-16.20-18.55-21.30 (00.10 Fri & Sat)
6
The Last Song
Miley Cyrus, Liam Hemsworth
(12.50 Sat & Sun) 15.05-17.20-19.35-21.50 (00.05 Fri & Sat)
7
Date Night
Steve Carell, Tina Fey
13.15-15.20-17.25-19.30-21.40 (23.55 Fri & Sat)
The Princess and the Frog
Animation PV
(10.10 Sat & Sun)
8
The Blind Side
Sandra Bullock, Quinton Aaron - 16.40
The Crazies
Timothy Olyphant, Radha Mitchell
22.00
Law Abiding Citizen
Gerard Butler, Jamie Foxx
19.25 (00.20 Fri & Sat)
Dear John
Channing Tatum, Amanda Seyfried
(11.50 Sat & Sun)
9
Alice in Wonderland
Johnny Depp, Mia Wasikowska
(11.00 Sat & Sun)
The Blind Side
Sandra Bullock, Quinton Aaron - 14.00
Green Zone
Matt Damon, Greg Kinnear
16.45-21.45 (00.15 Fri & Sat)
Dear John
Channing Tatum, Amanda Seyfried
19.15

CASTELLO LOPES CINEMAS ALGARVESHOPPING
TEL: 707 220 220
22 APR-28 APR

1
Urmel aus dem Eis - Animation PV
13.00-15.00-17.05-19.15
Law Abiding Citizen
Gerard Butler, Jamie Foxx
21.20 (23.50 Fri & Sat)
2
How to Train Your Dragon 3D
Animation PV
12.50-14.55-17.00
Clash of the Titans 3D
Sam Worthington, Liam Neeson
19.10-21.35 (00.00 Fri & Sat)
3
Green Zone
Matt Damon, Greg Kinnear
13.05-15.40-18.10-21.00 (23.30 Fri & Sat)
4
Clash of the Titans
Sam Worthington, Liam Neeson
13.30-16.20-18.45
From Paris With Love
John Travolta, Jonathan Rhys Meyers
21.15 (23.40 Fri & Sat)
5
The Blind Side
Sandra Bullock, Quinton Aaron
12.55-15.30-18.20-21.10 (23.45 Fri & Sat)
<Au6
The Last Song
Miley Cyrus, Liam Hemsworth
13.10-15.50-18.25-21.30 (00.10 Fri & Sat)
7
I Love You Phillip Morris
Jim Carrey, Ewan McGregor
13.40-16.10-18.30-21.40 (00.05 Fri & Sat)
8
Kick-Ass
Aaron Johnson, Nicolas Cage
13.20-16.00-18.40-21.25 (23.55 Fri & Sat)
9
Date Night
Steve Carell, Tina Fey
13.45-16.15-18.50-21.45 (00.15 Fri & Sat)

CASTELLO LOPES CINEMAS PORTIMÃO
TEL: 707 220 220
22 APR-28 APR

1
Clash of the Titans
Sam Worthington, Liam Neeson
13.40-16.00-18.30-21.30 (23.50 Fri & Sat)
2
Remember Me
Robert Pattinson, Emilie de Ravin
13.50-16.10-18.40-21.50 (0.15 Fri & Sat)
3
Date Night
Steve Carell, Tina Fey
13.10-15.10-17.20-19.20-22.00 (00.00 Fri & Sat)
4
How to Train Your Dragon
Animation PV
13.00-15.00-17.10-19.15
From Paris With Love
John Travolta, Jonathan Rhys Meyers
21.20 (00.20 Fri & Sat)
5
The Last Song
Miley Cyrus, Liam Hemsworth
13.30-15.50-18.20-21.10 (23.40 Fri & Sat)
6
Kick-Ass
Aaron Johnson, Nicolas Cage
13.20-16.20-18.50-21.40 (00.10 Fri & Sat)

Castello Lopes Cinemas
Tel: 707 220 220
www.castellolopescinemas.com

UCI Cinemas
Tel: 707 23 22 21
www.uciportugal.pt

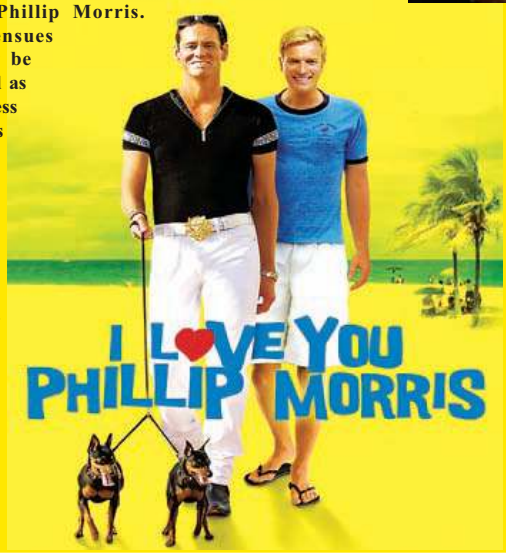
Zon Lusomundo Cinemas
Tel: 707 24 63 62
www.zonlusomundo.pt

OV = Original Version
PV = Portuguese Version

Film Classification
I Love You Phillip Morris - M/12
Kick-Ass - M/12
Urmel aus dem Eis - M/6
Clash of the Titans - M/12
The Last Song - M/12
Date Night - M/12
Green Zone - M/12
From Paris With Love - M/12
Law Abiding Citizen - M/16
How to Train Your Dragon - M/6
The Blind Side - M/12
Alice in Wonderland - M/6

M/4 - Four years and over
M/6 - Six years and over
M/12 - 12 years and over
M/16 - 16 years and over
M/18 - 18 years and over

Title: I Love You Phillip Morris
Genre: Comedy | Drama
Stars: Jim Carrey, Ewan McGregor, Rodrigo Santoro
Synopsis: When a local Texas policeman, Steve Russell, turns to cons and fraud to allow him to change his lifestyle (in more ways than one), his subsequent stay in the state penitentiary results in his meeting the love of his life, a sensitive fellow inmate named Phillip Morris. What ensues can only be described as a relentless quest as Russell attempts escape after escape and executes con after con, all in the name of love.



Title: Kick-Ass
Genre: Action | Comedy | Drama
Stars: Aaron Johnson, Chloe Moretz, Nicolas Cage, Mark Strong
Synopsis: The story of average teenager Dave Lizewski, a comic-book fanboy who decides to take his obsession as inspiration to become a real-life superhero. As any good superhero would, he chooses a new name - Kick-Ass - assembles a suit and mask to wear, and gets to work fighting crime. There's only one problem standing in his way: Kick-Ass has absolutely no superpowers whatsoever.

Title: Urmel aus dem Eis / Impy's Island
Genre: Animation
Synopsis: On a magical island, a group of talking animals make a marvellous discovery...a baby dinosaur frozen since prehistoric times! Little Impy as they call him, is loving his new family and ready to explore this new world. But when a faraway king wants to capture Impy, all his new friends must try to save their friend.

SATURDAY 24/04/10

BBC1
06.00 Breakfast.
10.00 Saturday Kitchen.
11.30 Great British Menu.
12.00 BBC News Regional News Weather.
12.15 Football Focus.
01.00 Live Snooker The World Championship.
04.30 Final Score.
05.05 BBC News Regional News Weather.
05.20 All New Total Wipeout.
06.20 Doctor Who.
07.05 Over the Rainbow.
08.10 The National Lottery Who Dares Wins.
09.00 Casualty.
09.50 BBC News Weather National Lottery Update.
10.15 Match of the Day.
11.25 The Football League Show.
12.45 Friday Night with Jonathan Ross Weatherview.
01.50 BBC News.

BBC2
06.00 CBeebies.
07.00 CBBC.
12.00 BBC Switch Degrassi The Next Generation.
12.25 BBC Switch The Cut.
12.50 BBC Switch The Well.
01.05 BBC Switch The Well.
01.15 BBC Switch The 5to19 Show.
01.30 BBC Switch Off the Hook.
02.00 FILM Windomis Way (1957).
03.45 Flog It!
04.30 Live Snooker The World Championship.
05.30 Dadis Army.
06.10 Coast.
06.20 Newsnight.
07.00 Live Snooker The World Championship.
08.15 Malcolm McLaren Artful Dodger.
09.00 Have I Got a Bit More News for You.
09.40 Frank Skinner's Opinionated.
10.10 Heroes.
10.55 FILM Jindabyne (2006).
12.50 Snooker The World Championship.
01.40 Snooker Extra.
03.40 Close.

ITV1 London
05.30 ITV Morning News.
06.00 GMTV.
09.25 The Planetis Funniest Animals.
09.55 The Crocodile Hunter Diaries.
10.25 The Lakes.
10.55 Monk.
11.55 News and Weather.
12.09 London Weather.
12.10 This Morning Saturday.
01.10 Midsomer Murders.
03.15 FILM Doc Hollywood (1991).
05.15 Creature Comforts.
05.30 London Tonight Weather.
05.45 ITV News and Weather.
06.00 Best of Youive Been Framed!
07.00 The Whole 19 Yards.
08.00 Britainis Got Talent.
09.00 The Prisoner.
10.00 FILM 2 Fast 2 Furious (2003).
11.25 ITV News and Weather Weather.
11.40 FILM 2 Fast 2 Furious (2003).
12.20 FILM Levity (2003) ITV News Headlines.
02.00 FILM Baito 3a Wings of Change (2004).
03.20 ITV Nightscreen.

Channel 4
06.10 The Hoobs.
06.35 The Hoobs.
07.00 World Sport.
07.25 Road to the 2010 FIFA World Cup.
08.00 The Morning Line.
08.55 T4 Friends.
09.25 T4 Friends.
09.55 T4 The Album Chart Show Kate Nash Special.
10.25 T4 Keshais Kick-Ass Hits Top Ten.
11.30 T4 90210.
12.25 T4 Koko Pop.
01.00 T4 Smallville.
01.55 Channel 4 Racing from Sandown Park and Ripon.
03.55 Come Dine with Me.
04.25 Come Dine with Me.
04.55 Come Dine with Me.
05.25 Come Dine with Me.
05.55 Come Dine with Me.
06.25 Channel 4 News.
06.55 Party Election Broadcast.
07.00 Blitz Street.
08.00 SAS The Real Story.
09.00 FILM Borat Cultural Learnings of America for Make Benefit Glorious Nation of Kazakhstan (2006).
10.40 Sacha Baron Cohen New Hero of Comedy.
11.40 FILM The Aristocrats (2005).
01.20 The Sopranos.
02.15 The Sopranos.
03.10 FILM Champion (1949).
04.45 Three Hungry Boys.
05.15 Eating for Britain.
05.25 Countdown.

Five
06.00 Sunrise.
07.00 Milkshake!
10.00 UEFA Europa League Highlights.
10.35 Great Ireland Run.
11.35 The Gadget Show.
12.35 Chinese Food in Minutes.
01.05 The Family Recipe.
01.15 FILM The Asphalt Jungle (1950).
03.25 FILM Khartoum (1966).
06.00 Five News.
06.05 FILM Butch Cassidy and the Sundance Kid (1969).
08.00 NCIS.
09.00 CSI NY.
10.00 Law & Order.
11.00 CSI Crime Scene Investigation.
11.55 Cops in Crisis.
12.15 SuperCasino.
04.05 House Doctor.
04.30 House Doctor.
05.00 Hanais Helpline.
05.10 The Milkshake! Show.
05.35 Thomas & Friends.
05.45 Roary the Racing Car.

THIS SUNDAY: Service of Holy Communion
6pm • Convento de S. José • LAGOA

Lead Priest : Fr. Joseph Wingo T: 309 402 783
Assistant Priest: Rev'd Jackie Nevill T: 914 781 453
Assistant Priest: Rev'd Paul Luckman T: 917 240 123
info@allsaintsalgarve.org • www.allsaintsalgarve.org
Please enquire about Baptism Services, Marriage Blessings, Funeral Services etc.

SUNDAY 25/04/10

BBC1
06.00 Breakfast.
06.40 TBA.
08.00 Match of the Day.
09.00 The Andrew Marr Show.
10.00 London Marathon.
02.00 The Politics Show.
03.15 EastEnders.
05.10 Songs of Praise.
05.50 BBC News Regional News Weather.
06.15 Countryfile.
07.15 Over the Rainbow.
08.00 Antiques Roadshow.
09.00 Five Daughters.
10.00 BBC News Regional News Weather.
10.25 Great British Railway Journeys.
10.55 FILM Arlington Road (1999) Weatherview.
12.50 Sign Zone Sue Johnstonis Shangri La.
01.45 Sign Zone The Man Who Cycled the Americas.
03.35 BBC News.

BBC2
06.00 CBeebies.
07.00 CBBC.
08.30 London Marathon.
10.00 Something for the Weekend.
11.30 Escape to the Country.
12.00 Monk.
12.40 TBA.
02.00 Live Snooker The World Championship.
05.15 Points of View.
05.30 Porridge.
06.00 London Marathon Highlights.
07.00 Live Snooker The World Championship.
08.00 Tropic of Cancer.
09.00 Top Gear.
10.00 Match of the Day 2.
11.00 Eyewitness.
12.00 Snooker The World Championship.
12.50 Snooker Extra.
02.50 BBC News.
03.35 The Super League Show.
04.25 Close.

ITV1 London
05.30 ITV Morning News.
06.00 GMTV.
09.25 Coronation Street.
11.45 News and Weather.
11.59 London Weather.
12.00 This Morning Sunday.
01.00 FILM Columbo A Stitch in Crime (1973).
02.30 Survival with Ray Mears.
03.35 Britainis Got Talent.
04.35 FILM Two Weeks Notice (2002).
06.25 London Tonight Weather.
06.40 ITV News and Weather.
07.00 Survival with Ray Mears.
08.00 Foyleis War.
10.00 ITV News and Weather Weather.
10.15 The South Bank Show Revisited.
11.15 Premiership Rugby Union.
12.15 Champions League Weekly.
12.45 British Superbike Championship Highlights.
01.35 Nightwatch with Steve Scott Crime ITV News Headlines.
02.30 Coastal Kitchen.
02.55 ITV Nightscreen.

Channel 4
06.10 The Treacle People.
06.20 The Hoobs.
06.45 The Hoobs.
07.10 Formula Ford Championship.
07.40 The Grid.
08.05 GT Academy.
09.00 T4 The Hills.
09.30 T4 Friends.
10.00 T4 Hollyoaks.
12.30 T4 Running in Heels.
01.00 T4 Frock Me.
01.35 T4 Glee.
02.35 T4 Friends.
03.10 T4 Friends.
03.40 T4 The Simpsons.
04.15 T4 The Simpsons.
04.40 Deal or No Deal.
05.30 Time Team.
06.30 Channel 4 News.
07.00 Embarrassing Bodies Back to the Clinic.
08.00 Come Dine with Me.
09.00 The Restoration Man.
10.00 Greatest Comedy Catchphrases.
01.05 Ricky Gervais Meets Larry David.
02.00 The Sopranos.
02.55 The Sopranos.
03.55 Hill Street Blues.
04.45 Three Hungry Boys.
05.10 Countdown.

Five
06.00 Sunrise.
07.00 Milkshake!
10.00 Shake!
11.10 Andre Rieu at the Albert Hall.
12.10 Ice Patrol.
01.10 Cowboy Builders.
02.10 FILM Darbyis Rangers (1957).
04.30 FILM Agent Cody Banks (2003).
06.25 Five News.
06.30 FILM The Man in the Iron Mask (1998).
09.00 FILM Secret Window (2004).
10.55 Justin Lee Collins Good Times.
11.55 The Gadget Show.
12.55 SuperCasino.
04.05 House Doctor.
04.30 House Doctor.
04.55 The Family Recipe.
05.00 Hanais Helpline.
05.10 The Milkshake! Show.
05.35 Thomas & Friends.
05.45 Roary the Racing Car.

QUICK PROPERTY SEARCH

Get a quick overview of properties available from our home page.
Hundreds of properties to see, classified by Price Range
www.the-news.net

MONDAY 26/04/10

BBC1
06.00 Breakfast.
09.15 Hospital Heroes.
10.00 Homes Under the Hammer BBC News Weather.
11.00 To Buy or Not to Buy.
11.30 Cash in the Attic BBC News Weather.
12.15 Bargain Hunt.
01.00 BBC News Weather.
01.30 Regional News Weather.
01.45 Doctors.
02.15 Escape to the Country.
03.00 BBC News Weather Regional News.
03.05 CBeebies.
03.30 CBBC.
05.15 Weakest Link.
06.00 BBC News Weather.
06.30 Regional News Programme Weather.
06.55 Party Election Broadcast.
07.00 The One Show.
07.30 Bang Goes the Theory BBC News Regional News.
08.00 EastEnders.
08.30 Panorama.
09.00 Five Daughters.
10.00 BBC News.
10.30 Regional News Weather.
10.45 Party Election Broadcast.
10.50 The Graham Norton Show.
11.35 This Week.
12.20 Late Kick Off Springwatch Weatherview.
12.55 Sign Zone Priceless Antiques Roadshow.
01.25 Sign Zone Great British Menu.
01.55 Sign Zone How Earth Made Us.
02.55 Sign Zone Jobless.
03.55 BBC News.

BBC2
06.00 CBeebies.
07.00 CBBC.
08.30 CBeebies.
11.00 Natureis Calendar.
11.30 Daily Politics Election Special.
12.30 Working Lunch.
01.00 Live Snooker The World Championship.
02.15 Daily Politics Election Debates.
03.00 Live Snooker The World Championship.
05.55 Party Election Broadcast.
06.00 Eggheads.
06.30 Great British Menu.
07.00 Live Snooker The World Championship.
08.00 Hidden Houses of Wales.
08.30 The Hairy Bakers.
09.00 Mary, Queen of Charity Shops Revisited.
10.00 Have I Got News for You.
10.30 Newsnight Weather.
11.20 Party Election Broadcast.
11.25 Great Ormond Street.
12.25 Snooker The World Championship.
01.15 Snooker Extra.
03.15 BBC News.
04.00 BBC Learning Zone.

ITV1 London
05.30 ITV Morning News.
06.00 GMTV.
09.25 The Jeremy Kyle Show.
10.30 This Morning.
12.30 Loose Women.
01.30 ITV News and Weather.
01.55 London News and Weather.
02.00 60 Minute Makeover.
03.00 Daily Cooks Challenge.
03.59 London Weather.
04.00 Dickinsonis Real Deal.
05.00 Divided.
06.00 London Tonight Weather.
06.25 Party Election Broadcast.
06.30 ITV News and Weather.
06.25 Party Election Broadcast.
06.30 ITV News and Weather.
07.00 Emmerdale.
07.30 Coronation Street.
08.00 Countrywise.
08.30 Coronation Street.
09.00 Joanna Lumleyis Nile.
10.00 ITV News at Ten and Weather.
10.30 London News and Weather.
10.32 Party Election Broadcast.
10.35 FILM Shakespeare in Love (1998).
12.55 Nightwatch with Steve Scott Action ITV News Headlines.
01.50 Loose Women.
02.40 The Jeremy Kyle Show.
03.35 ITV Nightscreen.

Channel 4
05.55 The Treacle People.
06.05 Sali Mali.
06.10 The Hoobs.
06.35 The Hoobs.
07.00 Freshly Squeezed.
07.30 Everybody Loves Raymond.
07.55 Everybody Loves Raymond.
08.20 Frasier.
08.50 Will & Grace.
09.20 Coach Trip.
10.20 Deal or No Deal.
11.05 Wife Swap USA.
12.00 Channel 4 News Summary.
12.05 The TV Book Club.
12.35 Will & Grace.
01.00 A Brief History of Fun.
01.20 FILM Cloak and Dagger (1946).
03.25 Countdown.
04.10 Deal or No Deal.
05.00 Iron Chef UK.
06.00 The Simpsons.
06.30 Hollyoaks.
07.00 Channel 4 News.
07.55 Party Election Broadcast.
08.00 Young, Autistic & Stagestruck.
09.00 Blitz Street.
10.00 The Worldis Richest Teenager and Me.
11.05 Party Election Broadcast.
11.10 Russell Brand Skinned.
12.15 Brighton Comedy Festival.
01.15 The Lady and the Revamp.
02.10 The Sopranos.
03.00 The Sopranos.
03.55 FILM Blood on the Sun (1945).
05.30 Three Hungry Boys.

Five
06.00 Milkshake!
09.15 The Wright Stuff.
10.45 Trisha Goddard.
11.45 CSI Crime Scene Investigation.
12.40 Five News.
12.45 Brighton Beach Patrol.
01.45 Neighbours.
02.15 Home and Away.
02.50 The Family Recipe.
02.55 FILM The Long Shot (2004).
05.00 Five News Weather.
05.30 Neighbours.
06.00 Home and Away.
06.25 Live from Studio Five.
07.25 Party Election Broadcast.
07.30 How Do They Do It?
07.55 Party Election Broadcast.
08.00 The Gadget Show Five News at 9.
09.00 FlashForward.
10.00 Justin Lee Collins Good Times.
11.00 FILM Red Water (2003).
12.55 SuperCasino.
04.05 House Doctor.
04.30 House Doctor.
04.55 County Secrets.
05.10 Neighbours.
05.35 Home and Away.

TUESDAY 27/04/10

BBC1
06.00 Breakfast.
09.15 Hospital Heroes.
10.00 Homes Under the Hammer BBC News Weather.
11.00 To Buy or Not to Buy.
11.30 Cash in the Attic BBC News Weather.
12.15 Bargain Hunt.
01.00 BBC News Weather.
01.30 Regional News Weather.
01.45 Doctors.
02.15 Escape to the Country.
03.00 BBC News Weather Regional News.
03.05 CBeebies.
03.30 CBBC.
05.15 Weakest Link.
06.00 BBC News Weather.
06.30 Regional News
06.55 Party Election Broadcast.
07.00 The One Show.
07.30 EastEnders BBC News Regional News.
08.00 Holby City.
09.00 Five Daughters.
10.00 BBC News.
10.30 Regional News Weather.
10.45 Party Election Broadcast.
10.50 Election 2010 The Regional Debate.
11.30 The Graham Norton Show.
12.15 FILM If Only (1998) Weatherview.
01.50 Sign Zone See Hear.
02.20 Sign Zone Priceless Antiques Roadshow.
02.50 Sign Zone Mastercrafts.
03.50 Sign Zone Great British Menu.
04.20 Sign Zone Bang Goes the Theory.
04.50 BBC News.

BBC2
06.00 CBeebies.
07.00 CBBC.
08.30 CBeebies.
11.00 Natureis Calendar.
11.30 Daily Politics Election Special.
12.30 Working Lunch.
01.00 Live Snooker The World Championship.
02.15 Daily Politics Election Debates.
03.00 Live Snooker The World Championship.
05.55 Party Election Broadcast.
06.00 Eggheads.
06.30 Great British Menu.
07.00 Live Snooker The World Championship.
08.00 Grow Your Own Drugs.
08.30 The Delicious Miss Dahl.
09.00 The Story of Science.
10.00 Later Live - with Jools Holland.
10.30 Newsnight Weather.
11.20 Party Election Broadcast.
11.25 Mad Men.
12.15 Snooker The World Championship.
01.05 Snooker Extra.
03.05 BBC News.
04.00 BBC Learning Zone.

ITV1 London
05.30 ITV Morning News.
06.00 GMTV.
09.25 The Jeremy Kyle Show.
10.30 This Morning.
12.30 Loose Women.
01.30 ITV News and Weather.
01.55 London News and Weather.
02.00 60 Minute Makeover.
03.00 Daily Cooks Challenge.
03.59 London Weather.
04.00 Dickinsonis Real Deal.
05.00 Divided.
06.00 London Tonight Weather.
06.25 Party Election Broadcast.
06.30 ITV News and Weather.
07.00 Emmerdale.
07.30 Childrenis Hospital.
08.00 Who Wants to Be a Millionaire? Celebrity.
09.00 The Bill.
10.00 ITV News at Ten and Weather.
10.30 London News and Weather.
10.32 Party Election Broadcast.
10.35 Campaign 2010 with Jonathan Dimbleby.
11.40 River Monsters.
12.30 Premiership Rugby Union ITV News
01.25 Loose Women.
02.15 The Jeremy Kyle Show.
03.10 ITV Nightscreen.

Channel 4
06.00 The Treacle People.
06.10 The Hoobs.
06.35 The Hoobs.
07.00 Freshly Squeezed.
07.25 Everybody Loves Raymond.
07.55 Everybody Loves Raymond.
08.20 Frasier.
08.50 Will & Grace.
09.15 Supernanny USA.
10.10 Deal or No Deal.
10.55 Iron Chef UK.
12.00 Channel 4 News Summary.
12.05 The TV Book Club.
12.35 Country House Rescue.
01.40 FILM Yangtse Incident (1957).
03.25 Countdown.
04.10 Deal or No Deal.
05.00 Iron Chef UK.
06.00 The Simpsons.
06.30 Hollyoaks.
07.00 Channel 4 News.
07.55 Party Election Broadcast.
08.00 Supersize vs Superskinny.
09.00 Hestonis Gothic Horror Feast.
10.00 Shameless.
11.10 Party Election Broadcast.
11.15 The Good Wife.
12.10 World Series of Poker.
01.10 KOTV.
01.35 World Superbike Championship.
02.05 Formula Ford Championship.
02.30 The Grid.
02.55 World Sport.
03.20 Freesports on 4.
03.50 Road to the 2010 FIFA World Cup.
04.15 GT Academy.
05.10 The Best of Scrapheap Challenge.

Five
06.00 Milkshake!
09.15 The Wright Stuff.
10.45 Trisha Goddard.
11.45 CSI Crime Scene Investigation.
12.40 Five News.
12.45 Brighton Beach Patrol.
01.45 Neighbours.
02.15 Home and Away.
02.50 I Own Britainis Best Home Flying Visit.
03.05 FILM Heart of a Stranger (2002).
05.00 Five News Weather.
05.30 Neighbours.
06.00 Home and Away.
06.25 Live from Studio Five.
07.25 Party Election Broadcast.
07.30 Chinese Food in Minutes.
07.55 Party Election Broadcast.
08.00 Cowboy Builders Five News at 9.
09.00 CSI Crime Scene Investigation.
10.00 CSI Miami Five News
11.00 CSI NY.
12.00 The FBI Files.
01.00 SuperCasino.
04.05 House Doctor.
04.55 County Secrets.
05.10 Neighbours.
05.35 Home and Away.

WEDNESDAY 28/04/10

BBC1
06.00 Breakfast.
09.15 Hospital Heroes.
10.00 Homes Under the Hammer BBC News Weather.
11.00 To Buy or Not to Buy.
11.30 Cash in the Attic BBC News Weather.
12.15 Bargain Hunt.
01.00 BBC News Weather.
01.30 Regional News Weather.
01.45 Doctors.
02.15 Escape to the Country.
03.00 BBC News Weather Regional News.
03.05 CBeebies.
03.30 CBBC.
05.15 Weakest Link.
06.00 BBC News Weather.
06.30 Regional News Programme Weather.
06.55 Party Election Broadcast.
07.00 The One Show.
07.30 DIY SOS BBC News Regional News.
08.00 Waterloo Road.
09.00 Crimewatch.
10.00 BBC News.
10.30 Regional News Weather.
10.45 Party Election Broadcast.
10.50 The National Lottery Draws.
11.00 Crimewatch Update.
11.10 Damages National Lottery Update.
11.50 FILM Rounders (1998) Weatherview.
01.45 Sign Zone Priceless Antiques Roadshow.
02.15 Sign Zone Antiques Roadshow.
03.15 Sign Zone Watchdog.
04.15 Sign Zone Great British Menu.
04.45 BBC News.

BBC2
06.00 CBeebies.
07.00 CBBC.
08.30 CBeebies.
11.00 Natureis Calendar.
11.30 Daily Politics Election Special.
12.30 Working Lunch.
01.00 See Hear.
01.30 Car Booty.
02.15 Daily Politics Election Debates.
03.00 Live Snooker The World Championship.
05.55 Party Election Broadcast.
06.00 Eggheads.
06.30 Great British Menu.
07.00 Live Snooker The World Championship.
08.00 The Edible Garden.
08.30 Cracking Antiques.
09.00 Monty Hallsi Great Hebridean Escape.
10.00 QI.
10.30 Newsnight Weather.
11.20 Party Election Broadcast.
11.25 Snooker The World Championship.
12.15 Snooker Extra.
02.15 BBC News.
04.00 BBC Learning Zone.

ITV1 London
05.30 ITV Morning News.
06.00 GMTV.
09.25 The Jeremy Kyle Show.
10.30 This Morning.
12.30 Loose Women.
01.30 ITV News and Weather.
01.55 London News and Weather.
02.00 60 Minute Makeover.
03.00 Daily Cooks Challenge.
03.59 London Weather.
04.00 Dickinsonis Real Deal.
05.00 Divided.
06.00 London Tonight Weather.
06.25 Party Election Broadcast.
06.30 ITV News and Weather.
07.00 Emmerdale.
07.30 Love UEFA Champions League.
10.00 ITV News at Ten and Weather.
10.30 London News and Weather.
10.32 Party Election Broadcast.
10.35 UEFA Champions League Extra Time.
11.40 Cops with Cameras.
12.35 Traffic ITV News Headlines.
02.00 Loose Women.
02.50 The Jeremy Kyle Show.
03.45 ITV Nightscreen.

Channel 4
06.05 Sali Mali.
06.10 The Hoobs.
06.35 The Hoobs.
07.00 Freshly Squeezed.
07.25 Everybody Loves Raymond.
07.50 Everybody Loves Raymond.
08.20 Frasier.
08.50 Will & Grace.
09.15 Supernanny USA.
10.10 Deal or No Deal.
10.55 Iron Chef UK.
12.00 Channel 4 News Summary.
12.05 The TV Book Club.
12.35 Country House Rescue.
01.35 Grudge Match.
01.45 FILM The Big Trees (1952).
03.25 Countdown.
04.10 Deal or No Deal.
05.00 Iron Chef UK.
06.00 The Simpsons.
06.30 Hollyoaks.
07.00 Channel 4 News.
07.55 Party Election Broadcast.
08.00 Three in a Bed.
09.00 Jamie Does - Stockholm.
10.00 Desperate Housewives.
11.00 Party Election Broadcast.
11.05 Shameless.
12.05 Music on 4 Paul Weller Find the Torch.
01.10 Music on 4 Mercury Prize Sessions.
01.25 The Air Hospital.
02.15 The Sopranos.
03.10 The Sopranos.
04.00 St Elsewhere.
04.50 Three Hungry Boys.
05.15 Countdown.

Five
06.00 Milkshake!
09.15 The Wright Stuff.
10.45 Trisha Goddard.
11.45 CSI Crime Scene Investigation.
12.40 Five News.
12.45 Big, Bigger, Biggest.
01.45 Neighbours.
02.15 Home and Away.
02.50 I Own Britainis Best Home Flying Visit.
03.05 FILM Nightscream (1997).
05.00 Five News Weather.
05.30 Neighbours.
06.00 Home and Away.
06.25 Live from Studio Five.
07.25 Party Election Broadcast.
07.30 Heads or Tails.
07.55 Party Election Broadcast.
08.00 Lucie Blackman Murder Crimes That Shook the World Five News at 9.
09.00 NCIS.
10.00 CSI NY.
10.55 Numb3rs.
11.50 Poker.
12.50 SuperCasino.
04.05 House Doctor.
04.30 House Doctor.
04.55 County Secrets.
05.10 Neighbours.
05.35 Home and Away.

THURSDAY 29/04/10

BBC1
06.00 Breakfast.
09.15 Hospital Heroes.
10.00 Homes Under the Hammer BBC News Weather.
11.00 To Buy or Not to Buy.
11.30 Cash in the Attic BBC News Weather.
12.15 Bargain Hunt.
01.00 BBC News Weather.
01.30 Regional News Weather.
01.45 Doctors.
02.15 Escape to the Country.
03.00 BBC News Weather Regional News.
03.05 CBeebies.
03.30 CBBC.
05.15 Weakest Link.
06.00 BBC News Weather.
06.30 Regional News Programme Weather.
07.00 The One Show.
07.30 EastEnders BBC News Regional News.
08.00 Watchdog.
08.30 The Prime Ministerial Debate.
10.00 BBC News.
10.30 Regional News Weather.
10.45 Question Time.
11.45 This Week Holiday Weatherview.
12.35 Sign Zone Priceless Antiques Roadshow.
01.05 Sign Zone Great British Menu.
01.35 Sign Zone Countryfile.
02.30 Sign Zone Tropic of Cancer.
03.30 Sign Zone Panorama.
04.00 BBC News.

BBC2
06.00 CBeebies.
07.00 CBBC.
08.30 CBeebies.
11.00 Natureis Calendar.
11.30 Daily Politics Election Special.
12.30 Working Lunch.
01.00 Live Snooker The World Championship.
06.00 Eggheads.
06.30 Great British Menu.
07.00 Live Snooker The World Championship.
09.00 Welcome to Lagos.
10.00 Never Mind the Buzzcocks.
10.30 Newsnight Weather.
11.20 Snooker The World Championship.
12.10 BBC News.
04.00 BBC Learning Zone.

ITV1 London
05.30 ITV Morning News.
06.00 GMTV.
09.25 The Jeremy Kyle Show.
10.30 This Morning.
12.30 Loose Women.
01.30 ITV News and Weather.
01.55 London News and Weather.
02.00 60 Minute Makeover.
03.00 Daily Cooks Challenge.
03.59 London Weather.
04.00 Dickinsonis Real Deal.
05.00 Divided.
06.00 London Tonight Weather.
06.30 ITV News and Weather.
07.00 Emmerdale.
07.30 Who's Going to Vote? Tonight.
08.00 Emmerdale.
08.30 Coronation Street.
09.00 Greatest Cities of the World with Griff Rhys Jones.
10.00 ITV News at Ten and Weather.
10.30 London News and Weather.
10.35 Police, Camera, Action!
11.35 The Late Debate.
12.05 Nightwatch with Steve Scott Mystery ITV News Headlines.
01.00 Loose Women.
01.50 The Jeremy Kyle Show.
02.40 British Touring Car Championship Highlights.
04.00 ITV Nightscreen.

Channel 4
06.00 The Treacle People.
06.10 The Hoobs.
06.35 The Hoobs.
07.00 Freshly Squeezed.
07.25 Everybody Loves Raymond.
07.50 Everybody Loves Raymond.
08.20 Frasier.
08.50 Will & Grace.
09.15 Supernanny USA.
10.10 Deal or No Deal.
10.55 Iron Chef UK.
12.00 Channel 4 News Summary.
12.05 The TV Book Club.
12.35 Will & Grace.
01.05 3 Minute Wonder How It Is.
01.10 FILM The Bad and the Beautiful (1952).
03.25 Countdown.
04.10 Deal or No Deal.
05.00 Iron Chef UK.
06.00 The Simpsons.
06.30 Hollyoaks.
07.00 Channel 4 News.
07.55 Party Election Broadcast.
08.00 The Landscape Man.
09.00 How the Other Half Live.
10.00 You Have Been Watching.
10.50 FILM Napoleon Dynamite (2004).
12.40 Music on 4 Evo Music Rooms.
01.10 Music on 4 The Album Chart Show Spotlight.
01.25 Frock Me.
01.55 The Sopranos.
02.45 The Sopranos.
03.45 FILM The Human Jungle (1954).
05.05 Grudge Match.
05.15 Countdown.

Five
06.00 Milkshake!
09.15 The Wright Stuff.
10.45 Trisha Goddard.
11.45 CSI Crime Scene Investigation.
12.40 Five News.
12.45 Big, Bigger, Biggest.
01.45 Neighbours.
02.15 Home and Away.
02.50 I Own Britainis Best Home Flying Visit.
03.05 Danielle Steelis Zoya.
05.00 Five News Weather.
05.30 Neighbours.
06.00 Home and Away.
06.25 Live from Studio Five.
07.25 Party Election Broadcast.
07.30 Live UEFA Europa League Football.
10.15 FILM Outlaw (2007).
12.15 SuperCasino.
04.05 Red Bull Air Race Magazine Show.
04.55 County Secrets.
05.10 Neighbours.
05.35 Home and Away.

See our website for Events Calendar, History Pages, Property Search, Travel Page, Face book fan page and Twitter
www.theportugalnews.com

FRIDAY 30/04/10

BBC1
06.00 Breakfast.
09.15 Hospital Heroes.
10.00 Homes Under the Hammer BBC News Weather.
11.00 To Buy or Not to Buy.
11.30 Cash in the Attic BBC News Weather.
12.15 Bargain Hunt.
01.00 BBC News Weather.
01.30 Regional News Weather.
01.45 Doctors.
02.15 Escape to the Country.
03.00 BBC News Weather Regional News.
03.05 CBeebies.
03.30 CBBC.
05.15 Weakest Link.
06.00 BBC News Weather.
06.30 Regional News Programme Weather.
06.55 Party Election Broadcast.
07.00 The One Show.
07.30 A Question of Sport BBC News Regional News.
08.00 EastEnders.
08.30 QI.
09.00 Ashes to Ashes.
10.00 BBC News.
10.30 Regional News Weather.
10.45 Friday Night with Jonathan Ross.
11.45 The National Lottery EuroMillions Draw.
11.55 FILM Octane (2003) Weatherview.
01.25 Sign Zone Priceless Antiques Roadshow.
01.55 Sign Zone Great British Menu.
02.25 Sign Zone The Day the Immigrants Left.
03.25 BBC News.

BBC2
06.00 CBeebies.
07.00 CBBC.
08.30 CBeebies.
11.00 Natureis Calendar.
11.30 Daily Politics Election Special.
12.30 Working Lunch.
01.00 Live Snooker The World Championship.
05.25 Party Election Broadcast.
06.00 Eggheads.
06.30 Great British Menu.
07.00 Live Snooker The World Championship.
09.00 Bombay Railway.
10.00 Frank Skinner's Opinionated.
10.30 Newsnight.
11.00 The Review Show Weather.
11.45 Later with Jools Holland.
12.50 Snooker The World Championship.
01.40 Heroes.
02.20 Heroes.
03.05 Heroes.
03.45 Close.

ITV1 London
05.30 ITV Morning News.
06.00 GMTV.
09.25 The Jeremy Kyle Show.
10.30 This Morning.
12.30 Loose Women.
01.30 ITV News and Weather.
01.55 London News and Weather.
02.00 60 Minute Makeover.
03.00 Daily Cooks Challenge.
03.59 London Weather.
04.00 Dickinsonis Real Deal.
05.00 Divided.
06.00 London Tonight Weather.
06.25 Party Election Broadcast.
06.30 ITV News and Weather.
07.00 Emmerdale.
07.30 Coronation Street.
08.00 Dickinsonis Real Deal.
08.30 Coronation Street.
09.00 Marcois Kitchen Burnout.
10.00 ITV News at Ten and Weather.
10.30 London News and Weather.
10.35 FILM Blood Work (2002).
12.40 Nightwatch with Steve Scott Mystery ITV News Headlines.
01.35 FILM DC Snipers 23 Days of Fear (2003).
03.05 ITV Nightscreen.

Channel 4
06.00 The Treacle People.
06.10 The Hoobs.
06.35 The Hoobs.
07.00 Freshly Squeezed.
07.25 Everybody Loves Raymond.
07.55 Everybody Loves Raymond.
08.20 Frasier.
08.50 Will & Grace.
09.20 Supernanny USA.
10.10 Deal or No Deal.
10.55 Iron Chef UK.
12.00 Channel 4 News Summary.
12.05 The TV Book Club.
12.35 Will & Grace.
01.00 A Brief History of Fun.
01.20 FILM None But the Brave (1965).
03.25 Countdown.
04.10 Deal or No Deal.
05.00 Iron Chef UK.
06.00 The Simpsons.
06.30 Hollyoaks.
07.00 Channel 4 News.
07.55 Party Election Broadcast.
08.00 Glee.
09.00 Embarrassing Bodies Kids.
10.00 Facejacker.
10.35 The Ricky Gervais Show.
11.10 Ricky Gervais New Hero of Comedy.
12.15 Music on 4 The Album Chart Show Usher Special.
12.45 Music on 4 Mercury Prize Sessions.
01.05 Music on 4 Evo Music Rooms.
01.35 Music on 4 This Weekis 4Music Top 20.
03.35 Young, Autistic & Stagestruck.
04.30 St Elsewhere.
05.20 Countdown.

Five
06.00 Milkshake!
09.15 The Wright Stuff.
10.45 Trisha Goddard.
11.45 CSI Crime Scene Investigation.
12.40 Five News.
12.45 Big, Bigger, Biggest.
01.45 Neighbours.
02.15 Home and Away.
02.50 I Own Britainis Best Home Flying Visit.
03.05 Danielle Steelis Zoya.
05.00 Five News Weather.
05.30 Neighbours.
06.00 Home and Away.
06.25 Live from Studio Five.
07.25 Party Election Broadcast.
07.30 Highland Emergency.
07.55 Party Election Broadcast.
08.00 Ice Patrol Five News at 9.
09.00 The Mentalist.
10.00 Greyis Anatomy.
11.00 NCIS.
11.55 Cops in Crisis.
12.15 SuperCasino.
04.05 Motorsport Mundial.
04.30 House Doctor.
04.55 County Secrets.
05.10 Neighbours.
05.35 Home and Away.

SUDOKU

Fill in the grid so that every row, every column, and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1 through 9. Answers next week.

Easy

			5		7			
	2						6	
3	7						5	2
8	1		2		3		4	9
		2	4		8	5		
5	3		9		1		7	8
9	5						1	6
	8						2	
			7		5			

Medium

					8			
8		5			1	4		
7			4	6		3		
						9		8
5	8			7			2	1
6		2						
		8		1	3			6
		3	6			2		7
			9					

Hard

7	5				1			6
9					8			7
	4						8	
		4	1					
		6				7		
					5	3		
	7						4	
4			9					3
1			6				9	2

Last weeks solutions:

2	5	9	3	8	4	1	7	6
6	8	3	9	1	7	5	4	2
7	1	4	2	6	5	3	9	8
8	4	1	5	2	6	9	3	7
3	7	5	8	4	9	6	2	1
9	2	6	7	3	1	4	8	5
5	3	8	6	9	2	7	1	4
4	6	2	1	7	3	8	5	9
1	9	7	4	5	8	2	6	3

9	4	1	5	7	8	2	6	3
6	3	8	2	9	1	4	7	5
2	7	5	4	6	3	1	9	8
3	6	4	9	1	2	8	5	7
1	5	2	7	8	6	3	4	9
8	9	7	3	5	4	6	1	2
5	1	6	8	3	9	7	2	4
7	2	3	6	4	5	9	8	1
4	8	9	1	2	7	5	3	6

5	7	4	9	1	3	6	8	2
8	3	1	6	4	2	5	7	9
6	2	9	7	5	8	4	1	3
7	6	2	5	8	1	9	3	4
3	1	5	4	6	9	7	2	8
4	9	8	3	2	7	1	5	6
1	8	7	2	9	6	3	4	5
2	5	6	1	3	4	8	9	7
9	4	3	8	7	5	2	6	1

WIN

2 entry tickets for the International Algarve Fair in Lagoa on 5th & 6th June

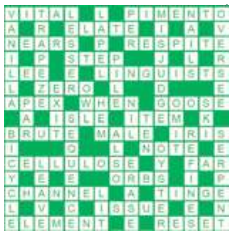
with the chance to win a Royal Caribbean Mediterranean Cruise for two

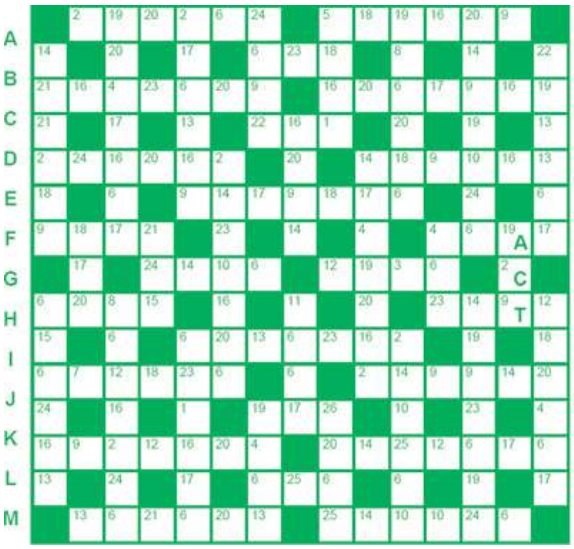
Your tickets will be entered in the Prize Draw whether you attend the Fair or not.

CODEWORD

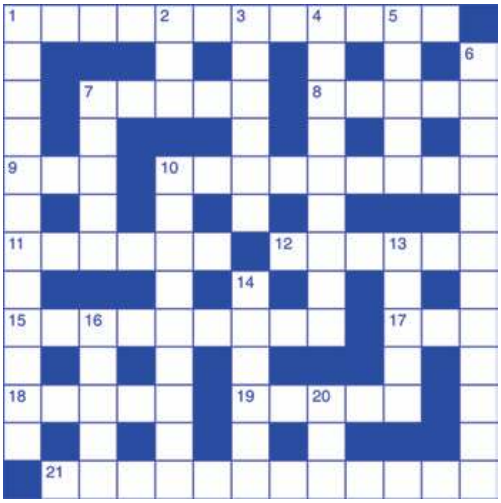
Each number in the grid represents a different letter of the alphabet. Decipher the code to fill in the crossword. Three letters are already in place and the check-box and letters either side will help you keep track of progress.

(Right: Last week's solution)





PRIZE CROSSWORD 1058



ACROSS

1. Race beginning (8-4)
7. Clip (5)
8. Rule (5)
9. Excessively (3)
10. Multiply (9)
11. Commencement (6)
12. Clear (6)
15. Uplifting (9)
17. Curve (3)
18. Sphere (5)
19. Harbour (5)
21. Declaration of dissent (12)

DOWN

1. Faults (12)
2. Part of the foot (3)
3. Circumscribed (6)
4. Sharing (9)
5. Spiral bandage (5)
6. Ban (12)
7. Brief (5)
10. Chairman (9)
13. Simple (5)
14. Rectifies (6)
16. Animal track (5)
20. By way of (3)

Two free entry tickets to the International Algarve Fair will be sent to the sender of the first correct solution to crossword nº 1058 opened next Thursday. Solutions to: The Portugal News Crossword Nº 1058, Apt. 13, 8401-901 Lagoa. Be sure to enclose your name, address and phone number.

WORDSEARCH

Find the hidden words within the square. The word may start anywhere and go in any direction.

E	X	R	J	B	M	E	D	N	A	T	U	L	A	W
F	Z	H	S	I	L	O	P	P	T	R	J	M	Q	Q
E	M	P	T	Y	M	D	R	Q	F	U	A	Q	Y	V
S	H	A	P	E	T	M	M	S	O	G	R	E	V	E
J	V	S	E	A	R	C	H	L	I	G	H	T	S	E
T	E	S	T	A	T	O	R	S	M	A	F	I	A	A
T	Q	O	F	N	E	B	U	L	A	E	O	S	Y	T
S	R	E	B	M	E	M	E	R	S	K	I	A	C	E
J	H	E	A	D	M	I	S	T	R	E	S	S	R	N
H	Y	D	R	O	S	T	A	T	I	C	S	M	A	H
P	A	M	E	P	H	E	M	E	R	A	L	M	F	J
Y	J	Y	A	W	L	I	A	R	E	M	E	O	T	S
O	B	Z	E	H	T	Y	C	S	F	W	X	P	L	M
Z	K	Q	U	N	C	L	E	T	A	E	Z	O	W	G
U	E	U	S	S	I	E	I	Z	S	B	I	D	Q	Y

HYDROSTATICS, EATEN, SHAPE, MAP, EVER, SCYTHE, POLISH, REMEMBERS, SKI, SAFER, UNCLE, RAILWAY, HEADMISTRESS, OFT, TANDEM, TESTATORS, CRAFT, SEARCHLIGHTS, EMPTY, EPHEMERAL, ISSUE, NEBULA, MAFIA.

SPOT THE DIFFERENCE

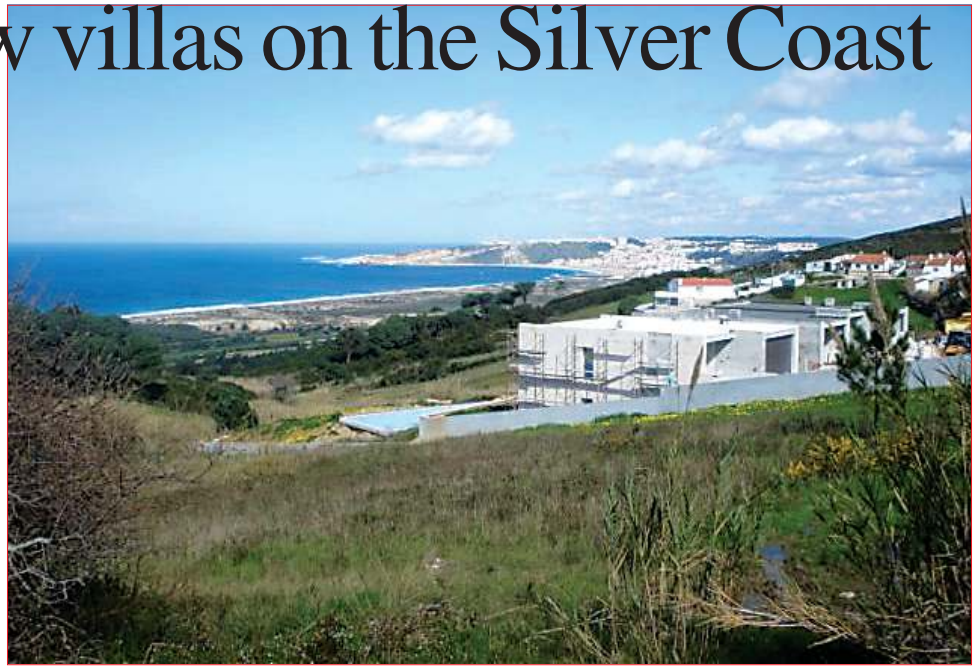
See if you can find 6 differences between the two photos.

Last weeks solutions
Across: 4 Piccolo; 8 Occupy; 9 Advance; 10 Tiller; 11 Create; 12 Saturate; 18 Pathetic; 20 Uproar; 21 Random; 22 Relieve; 23 Refuse; 24 Wheedle.
Down: 1 Contest; 2 Acolyte; 3 Appear; 5 Indecent; 6 Craven; 7 Locate; 13 Approval; 14 Stadium; 15 Scamper; 16 Speech; 17 Polite; 19 Heaven.
Last weeks winner:M. Contreiras, Castro Marim

Last week's solution:

PROPERTY OF THE WEEK

Open sea view villas on the Silver Coast



Located between São Martinho do Porto and Nazaré seafront (on the Silver Coast) are a cluster of striking, unique villas, built following a contemporary, open architecture, boasting uninterrupted sea views, being sold at what the agency describes as an "incredible price"!

One of the major selling points of this unique development are the breathtaking views. The homes have been designed to incorporate the best of nature, so owners can enjoy the sun and the ocean with all its beauty. Designs are based on a blend of the green of the fields, the soft blue of the sky, the warm yellow of the sandy beach and the electric blue of the ocean.

"There is only one word to describe it: WOW – an explosion of the senses!" the agency says.

The land in front of the property is classified a protected 'green area', ruling out any possibility of construction – now and in the future. It is a peaceful and secure area without immediate neighbours and completely private.

This development can be certainly considered as unique along the Silver Coast and worth a visit on your next trip. More precisely, it is eight minutes driving distance to São Martinho do Porto and its bay, five minutes driving distance to Nazaré, 10 minutes driving distance to the main A8 motorway and an hour's drive to Lisbon International Airport.

The three and four bedroom villas share a pool and are still under construction.

The villas are not all the same, depending on the location (front row or back row), though all of them have the following components: an entrance hall, three or four bedrooms (one en suite), two more bathrooms, a huge living room with open ocean views through the panoramic large windows and with large balcony facing the sea.

The villas further comprise one fully equipped, high-tech kitchen (including all the appliances), a large garage, a storage and laundry room, and panoramic sea views from all the rooms. Each villa has a small private garden area

Additional features include air conditioning, a central vacuum system, and a solar panel system.

Prices start from €275,000 (Ref. AO-GER-0014).

Tipped as one of Portugal's most up-and-coming areas, the Silver Coast has recently been earmarked as an investment 'hot-spot' by savvy property investors.

For more information, contact Villas Luz, Lda. (Portuguese licensed Real Estate Agency, license number: AMI 3728, APEMIP 1773) on mobile: (+351) 919 054 792, office: (+351) 262 989 452, fax: (+351) 262 990 514, or email: office-paula@silver-coast-properties.net. Alternatively, see website: www.silver-coast-properties.net.

Villas Luz has offices in São Martinho do Porto, Nazaré, Obidos and Foz do Arelho. For more contact numbers or to book a viewing, see the website.

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Olhos d'Água
Excellent 2 bedroom apartment with fireplace. This apartment is situated in a very quiet area, Quinta do Paiva. Private condominium with a very big swimming pool and beautiful views over the country side
Ref. 122261002-475
Price: € 149.000

Vale Parra
Excellent town house with very good areas. Situated in Condominium da Parra, only 1,32 Miles from Galé beach. At the ground floor we have the entrance hall, kitchen, living room and storage room. On the 1st floor, 3 bedrooms 1 en suite, 1 bad & 2 balconies. A sunny backyard w/BBQ & common garden w/large sw. pool.
R.122261002-416 Price: € 245.000

Albufeira - Quinta da Balaia
Excellent 3 bedroom Villa situated in Quinta da Balaia - Albufeira. This Villa has a wide garden with a big swimming pool, BBQ & parking place for 2 cars, equipped with Air Conditioning & has a big sunny terrace overlooking the gardens & sea. Very good location, excellent price.
Ref. 122261002-402
Price: € 445.000

Boliqueime
Very good investment and business opportunity. Outstanding spacious villa set in beautiful grounds (1.15ha / 11.500m2) w/breathtaking views over the countryside, within 10 mins to some of the most beautiful beaches & golf courses. 11 bedrooms fully equipped. Large living room w/fireplace, 3 large terraces (1 w/BBQ), swimming pool and patio area, tennis court - all within beautifully kept gardens.
Price: € 1.970.000

S. B. Messines
Excellent and new warehouse with 180 m2. Situated in S.B. Messines and near the accesses to the A2 and IC1. Very good location and very good opportunity for your business.
Ref. 122261002-450

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- Aptm 108m², terr 25m²

Ref. A1218
Price Reduced: € 350.000

Santa Catarina
- Plot with project
- V3 villa approx. 190m²
- Beautiful mountain view
- Mains electricity
- Cisterna & fossa
- Plot 1.256m²

Ref. TRA1151
Price: € 169.000

Gerês, Bragança (North)
- Old cottage to restore
- In Gerês National Park
- Spectacular lake views
- 2 beds, 1 bath & annex
- Well & spring water
- Cott. 160m² plot 2.000m²

Ref. C1321
Price: € 175.000

Messines
- Attractive country house
- Ideal land for horses
- 5 bedrooms 4 bathrooms
- Oil central heating, solar
- Terrace, garden & 2 lakes
- Villa 400m² Plot 57.000m²

Ref. V1248
Price: € 475.000, negotiable

Goldra, Loulé
- Beautiful spacious villa
- Panoramic coast views
- 4 bedrooms 4 bathrooms
- C/heating & air-co
- Pool, basement/garage
- Villa 405m² plot 3.880m²

Ref. V1319
Price: € 1.100.000

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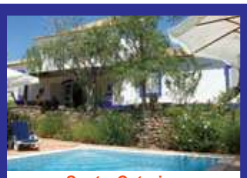
Tavira: 281 320 281
Vilamoura: 289 301 294

Tavira
New 5 bedroom villa w/ large pool & small lake enjoying sea views & privacy on landscaped plot of 15.560 m2. Living area of 307 m2 & basement of 192 m2. High quality construction and specifications. Easy access.
Ref: LHV-937 Price: € 1.200.000

Estoi
Unique, modern, split-level villa with pool & guesthouse offering privacy & breathtaking views towards the coast. Covered area: 360 m2, plot: 2140 m2. enjoying Good quality construction.
Ref: LHV-1063 Price: € 1.200.000



Santa Catarina
Lovely 4-bedroom quinta (265 m2) with many typical Portuguese features. Swimming pool & beautiful gardens. Plot of 9840 m2. Spacious double-height living area. Easy road access. Good value for money.
Ref: LHV-866 Price: € 590.000
(Reduced from € 799.000)

Tavira
Luxurious 4 bedroom villa (430 m2 covered area) with swimming pool on preferred location in Tavira. Large living room with adjacent dining area, Italian design kitchen, high quality building materials and finishing. Plot of 1074 m2 enjoying country views.
Ref: LHV-901 Price: € 749.000

Near São Brás
Offers invited! Outstanding 3-bedroom villa (177 m2) with pool & garage (41 m2) set on a 2500 m2 plot offering far-reaching views. Tastefully chosen materials, under floor heating, air-conditioning. Worth a viewing.
Ref: LHV-1066 Price: € 465.000

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VILAMOURA – GOLFE
Ref. A92414
2 bedroom apartment excellently located inside Millennium/Laguna Golf Course on a very quiet area. Prestigious complex w/large green areas & communal sw. pool. Fully furnished & equipped. A/c & alarm sys. Underground parking space for 1 car & 1 storage. Large South/West facing balcony w/direct access to garden & pool area. Excellent letting potential.
Price: € 265.000,00

VILAMOURA - MARINA
Ref. A82158
As new 2 bedroom apartment excellentely located within walking distance to Marina & Falésia beach. Closed complex w/ large green areas & sw. pool. Constr. area of 100 sq.m. Fully furnished & equipped. Excellent finishes. A/c. Underground parking space for 1 car & 1 storage in basement. Large south facing terrace overlooking garden & pool area. Excellent letting potential.
Price: € 225.000,00

VILAMOURA – MILLENNIUM GOLFE
Ref. A92622
Top floor 2 bedroom apartment excellently located inside the Millennium Golf Course. Complex with garden and swimming pool. Nice open views. Spacious fully fitted kitchen. Air conditioning. Private underground parking for two cars. Large South/West facing balcony overlooking pool and garden area.
Price: € 235.000,00

QUARTEIRA – BEACH
Ref. A92578
New 2 bedroom apartment excellently located 100 metres from the beach and in walking distance to restaurants, bars, shops, etc. Complex w/communal garden & sw. pool. 90 sq.m. constr. area. Modern finishes. Fully furnished & equipped. Electric shutters. Pre installation A/c. Underground parking space for 1 car and 1 storage. Excellent letting potential.
Price: € 199.500,00

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So before discounting the idea of restoring a ruin or a dilapidated building, contact HofHouse who will be happy to help you with your project.

Using modern construction methods it is a fast, economical and versatile solution to owning a modern luxury home, yet retaining the character of a traditional building.

However, for some people the traditional, brick is their preferred method of construction and for 35 years Hofhouse have been building houses, townhouses and apartments to a higher standard than most of the buildings in Portugal.

If you still, after knowing all the advantages a timber frame construction can offer, believe that you would be better off with a brick constructed home, HofHouse will be pleased to give you all further information at their new office in Silves on Av. Marginal Urb. Pérola do Rio, Lt 06, Loja E. They are open to the public Monday – Friday from 9am-6pm or you can call them on 918 686 213 or 961 580 615. However, if you wish to know more about HofHouse Timber Frame Construction, you can call for an apointment to visit their office in Algoz or go to www.hofhouseportugal.com.

Restoration - before and after

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A timber frame one-storey villa

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LAGOS • Marina de Lagos
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Refª A-154 • Price €210,000.

LAGOS • Torraltinha
Charming 2 bedroom apartment, very well located, and near all services. Not far from Porto de Mós beach and the Town centre, is ideal for permanent living or holiday periods.
Refª A-156 • Price €145,000.

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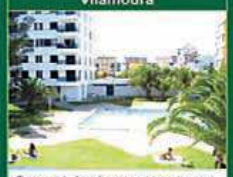
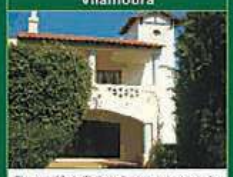


Great 1 bedroom apartment, very well located. Completely renovated and furnished, with parking outside and 2 swimming pools. Just 200 metres from the Marina of Vilamoura.
Ref.: 2961 Promotion € 93.500

Vilamoura



Beautiful 2 bed apartment in the Old Village. Comprising lounge with fireplace, kitchen. The property also has a balcony and large roof terrace with magnificent panoramic views.
Ref.: 2976 € 245.000

Boliqueime

Pretty two bedroom, two bathroom, renovated and fully furnished Villa with nice garden area, swimming pool with terrace and BBQ. A wonderful peaceful location with very pretty views.
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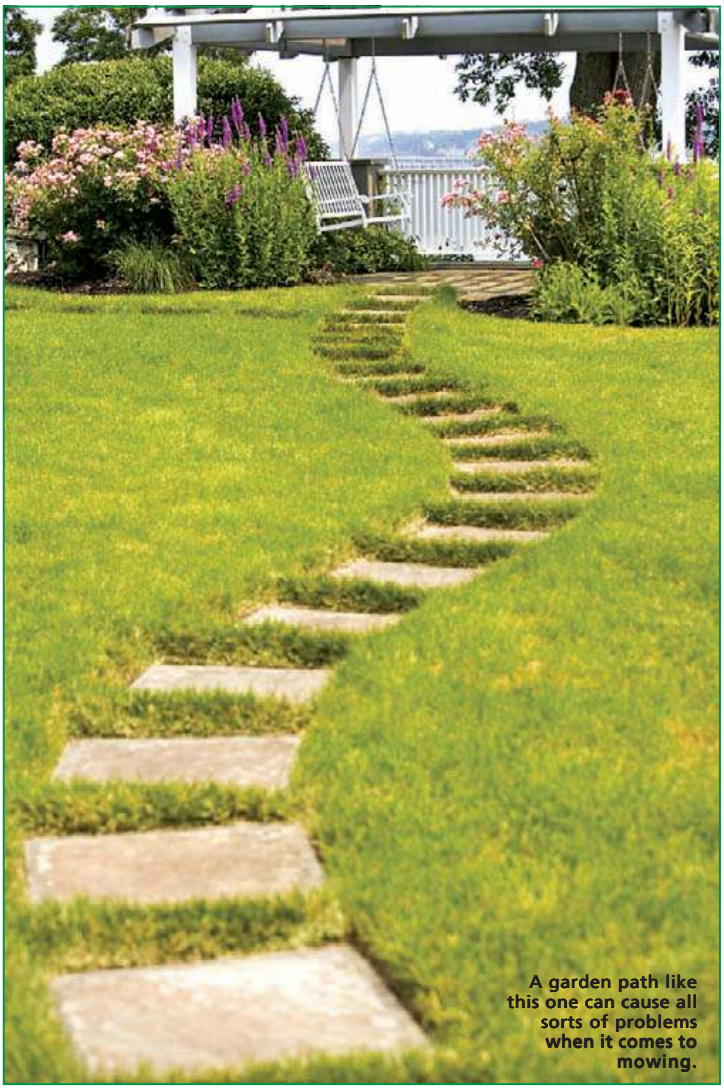

A garden path like this one can cause all sorts of problems when it comes to mowing.

Is your lawnmower too big, heavy and cumbersome? Do you have trouble manoeuvring it round those awkward little corners or up and down steps to get to your grass? If so, it may be time to trade it in for a new model.

If you have a small lawn, being able to move your mower from one place to another is just as important as speed and cutting efficiency.

With this in mind, Which? Gardening, the Consumers' Association magazine, has just revealed the results of a survey in which researchers put the smallest and cheapest lawnmowers through their paces in small areas of grass, simulating a small back lawn with obstacles including a tree, a small island bed, an awkward entrance and a garden path of indiviual paving stones.

It found that wheeled rotary mowers are the best choice for those with small patches of grass, as they can be wheeled to the lawn, collect clippings well and are easy to push around obstacles.

Hover mowers, which ride on a cushion of air, are also popular as they are light and easily manoeuvrable. However, they don't collect clippings, which can be a pain if your children use the lawn and then tread all the clippings into the house.

You can buy hover mowers with a grass collector, but Which? Gardening found that they are hard work to move around, especially if the grass box is full, and you have to push them in a straight line to collect the clippings.

The survey, which focused on the smallest (28-33cm wide) and cheapest mowers, gave Flymo the thumbs up, with its Venturer 32 wheeled rotary mower being voted best buy. It left a neat, striped finish on the short grass, thanks to a roller between the rear wheels, and performed well in the manoeuvrability tests.

Others which also fared well included the Flymo Pac a Mow, a rotary mower which was best at cutting a typical lawn, although it was on the heavy side at 16kg, while the Flymo Micro Lite, among the cheapest at and the lightest at 4.5kg, also scored well, although it doesn't collect the clippings.

The recently launched Gardena Powermax 32E, a wheeled rotary mower, was also among the best buys and did well in all the tests, cutting right up to lawn edges, and comes with a well-balanced carry handle, a single lever to adjust the cutting height and adjustable handle height.

Anyone who is creating a new lawn space this spring should design it with mowing in mind. Consider whether you are going to be able to get a mower to all those lawn edges and try to incorporate curves to eliminate corners in your lawn so you can run the mower right around the edges easily.

If you have a corridor of lawn, or a narrow area of grass running alongside a path or bed, make that patch of lawn wide enough to accommodate a mower or you'll never be able to cut it properly.

Think about obstacles. If you have to have a rotary washing line in your lawn, sink the base so that you can mow over it.

Make sure your lawn surface is slightly higher than adjacent beds and paths, so you can run the mower over the edge, which will save you having to do extra trimming of lawn edges later on. Some people incorporate brick or stone borders around their flower beds, set slightly lower than the lawn, to separate the grass from the flowers and make mowing easier.

A row of bricks or slabs can also be useful if your lawn butts up against a fence. Again, they should be laid slightly lower than the lawn surface, so you can mow over the edge.

Stockists: Flymo www.flymo.co.uk; Gardena www.liveyourgarden.com

The full report appears in the April issue of Which? Gardening. For more information and to get three copies for £3/€3.40, visit www.trygardeningwhich.co.uk

Hannah Stephenson

Obsticles can make mowing a real struggle.

Three ways to ...

Start with edibles in small spaces

1. To get a regular crop of your favourite salad, sow small amounts two or three weeks apart.
2. Start some vegetables off in small trays or modules on a well-lit porch or kitchen windowsill.
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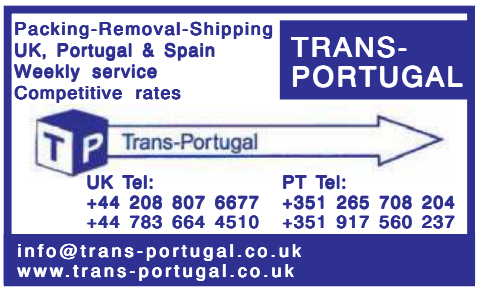


Petal power for Spring

Bright splashes of colour and floral patterns will cheer up rooms even if Spring's sunshine is a little slow in arriving. Gabrielle Fagan shows how to banish winter blues with a bouquet of home effects.

Spring's certainly struggling to show it's face outdoors but inside it's a blooming different story.

Flowers in all shapes and sizes, from wild, exotic blooms to delicate buds, are blossoming on homeware, whether on wallpapers and fabrics or china and cushions.

Designers seem to have taken the countryside to their hearts, as florals have also found favour on the fashion catwalks.

Papering a wall in a print evoking a flower-strewn meadow or picking a 'posy' of petal-scattered accessories could be just the tonic to banish winter blues and refresh tired rooms.

"Our love for nature never seems to wane," says Mockie Harrison, design manager for Home at John Lewis.

"Our home collection this year is driven by all things natural and organic. Florals is one of the key stories, and we've used elements of it across all areas - from fabrics to wallpaper."

In general, on the high street there's a choice between patterns using digital technology which appear so real you can almost 'smell the roses' and others which merely use flowers as a starting block to create imaginative botanical designs from traditional to contemporary.

"Floral fabrics with chintzy colours and ruffled edges were popular in the Eighties - think Laura Ashley as well as Sanderson's wallpapers - but fell out of favour in the minimalist Nineties," explains Kate Mooney, managing director of interiors company, Occa-Home.

"But they've recently enjoyed a revival partly triggered by the introduction of digital printing techniques favoured by many young designers. The new take on florals has blooms scaled up in size, rather than tiny, fussy prints, but more muted colourways using only two or at the most three shades."

If you follow the trend, be aware that just as an overwhelming profusion of real blooms can trigger allergies in the sensitive, decor flower power should similarly be handled with discretion especially if a desire for colour and pattern is only slowly growing on you!

"Busy, brightly coloured floral patterns can overwhelm especially in small spaces," says Mooney.

"Generally florals work best used as an accent for a room, while floral wallpapers work well on one key wall, complemented by accessories such as cushions that continue the theme."

So celebrate Spring and gather a beautiful bouquet of homewares that will bring your home out of hibernation!

• Wild for walls

Welcome in the new season by bringing walls alive with floral papers and fabrics.

"Florals are incredibly versatile and can be used to great effect. I would suggest combining a beautiful large scale floral with geometric and striped fabrics for a dynamic graphic edge," says designer, Tricia Guild, director and founder of Designers Guild.

"To maintain a balance with the colour, I'd keep floors and ceilings neutral and use masses of white and highlights of charcoal, such as a black and white silk."

She favours shades such as rose pink, lilac and dove grey, and for a softer feel, advises combining a floral design with a mass of sumptuous textures in a room, such as a sofa upholstered in a washed figured velvet.

• Flowery vistas

Gardens are still bereft of blooms, but don't despair, use floral fabrics to conjure blooms inside. "More people are using window treatments as a way to introduce colours and pattern to a living space, with florals enjoying a huge revival," says David Adeane (cor) co-founder of The Natural Curtain Company.

Alternatively, blinds scattered with flowers are a clever way to conceal a bleak outlook.

• Flowery statement

Just as a flower arrangement brings a room to life, so can furniture if it's upholstered in a floral fabric.

"The word floral often puts people off, but you don't have to furnish a room in a dated style your granny would be proud of," says Claire Hornby, creative stylist at Barker & Stonehouse.

"The best thing about florals is that they can be kitsch and cute, or wild and dramatic depending on your taste. So instead of opting for predictable pastel shades why not consider bright fuscia pinks, or vivid, lime greens contrasting with brilliant white. There's scope to create a floral paradise which is chic and modern."

She advises mixing patterns and colours. "Team a sofa in a zingy colour with a vivid patterned chair or two," she says.

"Or create your own floral piece. Paint a cupboard in a punchy colour and then use a spray mount to attach sections of floral wallpaper to drawer fronts or panels."

• Let it grow

Gardeners recognise that this hobby can become an obsession, and once you've caught the enthusiasm for home florals they're likely to spread throughout the house.

Flowers are even popping up on kitchen units at Magnet. Its product and marketing director, Anjur Ahmed says: "For 2010, art will meet kitchen design. Floral designs are a hot trend and new technology is allowing patterns and textured designs to appear on kitchen units and worktops.

"While not for the faint hearted, bold, bright florals can add creative flair and personality to a kitchen."

Fresh, feminine florals are chic for boudoirs, and Laura Ashley and House of Fraser have excellent ranges.

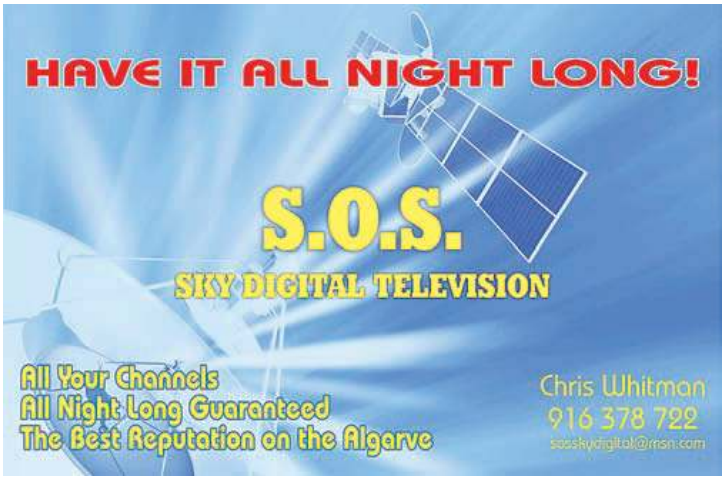
• Sew the seeds

Plant this style in rooms with accessories and, of course, add vases of fresh flowers.

"Flowers are definitely everywhere - large, small, climbing, retro!" says Fionnuala Johnston, design coordinator at B&Q.

"Florals bring rooms alive - think a cottage garden bursting with flowers - and this theme will thrive and endure well into next year.

"A cushion in a floral print which includes yellow, coral and turquoise could give a fresh look to a neutral room scheme, and a floral rug, echoing colours already in a room, could refresh jaded winter decor."



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Living life through a lens

Photographer Judith Fox's moving book and photographic exhibition charts both the practical and emotional aspects of her brilliant husband's battle with Alzheimer's disease. Lisa Salmon speaks to her about her husband's decline and how her photographs illustrate it, and also to the Alzheimer's Society and a dementia sufferer about the condition which affects 700,000 people in the UK.

Alzheimer's sufferer, Dr Edmund Ackell.

Surrounded by dark shadows, an elderly man sits with his eyes closed and head in one hand.

Just one of many poignant photographs of Dr Edmund Ackell taken by his wife and carer, Judith Fox, it is a powerful attempt to capture the anguish of her husband's battle with Alzheimer's disease.

The once-brilliant mind of the 84-year-old former surgeon and World War II fighter pilot is being slowly destroyed by a disease which affects 700,000 people in the UK.

Diagnosed 12 years ago, just three years after he married Fox, his wife decided to chart his decline through photographs in a bid to "humanise an illness that has been in the closet for too many years".

Her deeply personal images have now been published in the book, I Still Do: Loving and Living with Alzheimer's, which Fox calls a "pictorial tribute" to her husband.

They have also been shown in exhibitions in the UK and the USA.

"Photographing my husband has been an intimate and loving process, as well as a way of keeping him close as he was leaving me," stresses, Fox, aged 68.

The photographer, who lives in California, is no stranger to suffering - her first husband died from cancer at the age of 53.

"I've had experience of Alzheimer's and cancer. They're both horrific diseases, but there's something about Alzheimer's that is uniquely awful.

"That loss of grounding and the loss of your sense of self and the awareness of that loss has got to be one of the most awful things possible."

Ackell is now in the advanced stages of Alzheimer's, but still knows his wife, has moments of lucidity, and can express himself.

However, he has visual agnosia, which means his brain can't interpret what he sees, so he's functionally nearly blind.

He also has severe hallucinations, which have been reduced by medication.

"It's much more of a struggle than it was a year ago, when he had a terrific command of language. That's one of the things he's lost most slowly.

"He still has many lucid moments, moments when we can talk about what he's experiencing."

In the past Ackell has spoken

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about how frightened he is, and how he doesn't want to be "a burden", explaining in the first years after diagnosis, how he wanted to go into a home when appropriate, but that he'd like to die before he reached that stage.

"I just want him not to feel anxious and fearful," says Fox.

"It must feel horrific to not trust anything around you, to not feel you can put your hands, or mind, on anything."

For the first eight years after her husband's diagnosis, Fox cared for him on her own and didn't take a single day off.

"The thing with Alzheimer's is that you have to be there all the time, and if you're a worrier like I am you're constantly vigilant and you worry that they'll leave a light on the stove, trip over a rug, walk into a window, forget that the stair's there, or get lost," she explains.

"That's aside from all the other things that are going on.

"It's physically demanding, and mentally exhausting."

After eight years she finally hired some much-needed help during the day.

And last July, Fox made the agonising decision to put her husband in a home, or 'facility' as they're known in the USA.

His dementia was too advanced for him to be able to discuss the move with her, but he had, of course, made it clear early on that he wanted to go into a home when he "became a burden".

He'd also repeatedly expressed a desire to 'go home', meaning his childhood home, where he'd been well and felt safe.

"I realised that no matter where he was he would want to go home, and for that and other reasons I knew it was better and okay for him to go into a good facility.

"It was very, very difficult to make the decision. I'd thought about it a year before, but couldn't go there.

"My determination was always to keep him at home, and I did everything possible, including redesigning our home so he could live in it forever.

"Even though intellectually I know him going into the facility is the right decision, emotionally it still tugs."

Since then Fox's book has been published, because, as she explains: "I realised I was in a very unique position to advocate for Alzheimer's awareness through my work.

"It's about life experiences everybody can relate to - there's space in every photograph for the viewer to see themselves or someone they know and love.

"I hope the book will be one more way of people better understanding the disease and the effect it has on the patient and the care-giver."

Fox wants the book to convey "both the pain and the positives", insisting that living with dementia is not all bad.

She illustrates this by describing how, when her husband is depressed, she holds his hand and talks him through it until he smiles.

"To me that's a very good moment," she says.

"I've always focused on what we have, and that's helped me a great deal. You have two choices - you either spend time thinking about all the things you no longer have, or you think about what you still have."

As the disease has not yet got as bad as it could, Fox says she feels fortunate, insisting she can "still see the essence of him in many ways".

"There are gifts that come with this," she stresses. "It's a terrible, horrific disease but there are also good moments and it's not all helpless and hopeless doom and gloom.

"As groundless as Ed feels, he still knows that I am his grounding, I am his rock.

"That's very precious to me."

Her complex emotions will be shared by many of the UK's dementia carers, who do a tough job 24/7.

Two thirds of them still look after their loved ones at home, and are often so busy with their caring role that they're not really visible.

"As a result, we don't have a good enough understanding of exactly what they're doing and the extent to which they're devoting their lives to an individual, and in many cases giving up their own lives," says Andrew Ketteringham, director of external affairs for the Alzheimer's Society.

He says carers often struggle on for much longer than they should, risking their own health.

"And the reason for that is the decision you make to put someone in a care home is hugely difficult, particularly if you've never discussed it with them."

He points out that in the early stages of dementia, patients are able to discuss what they want for the future, as Ackell did with Fox.

"If you've had a discussion with your children or partner about what you want to happen, and say you'll be happy for them to put you into care when necessary, then that's of huge benefit to the person who's making the decision later on."

Judith Fox touching her husband, Ed's hand.

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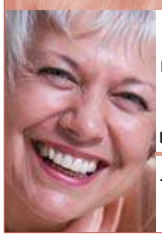

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Working through the revolution

On April 25th, 1974, Portugal saw its people rise up and revolt to overthrow a political dictatorship that had suppressed the country for more than a decade. Here, newly-appointed Norwegian Vice-Consul Marianne Vikre, who also founded travel and aviation service company Airpass, shares her memoires of living and working through the revolution.

Marianne Vikre arrived in Portugal on May 17th, 1971 with her husband Trond, then the manager of a large Scandinavian tour operating company which became the first company to introduce charter flights between Scandinavia and the Algarve.

"Clients went mostly to Torralta, Alvor and Lagos. Albufeira was not on the map back then", she recollects.

A chance meeting with an airline manager gave Marianne the opportunity to return to her roots in the airline business, being offered a role as regional station manager for Danish airline Sterling EU. Over the years she gradually branched out, overseeing services for other Scandinavian airlines in the Algarve, and 1989 created Airpass.

She confided, "When we first moved here it was like Africa, it took me a long time to adapt. I didn't know the country was under a dictatorship otherwise I would never have come".

Prior to the revolution Marianne had been deported from Portugal for mentioning the word 'dictatorship' on a coach filled with tourists.

"We couldn't talk about Salazar. I was standing on the coach and I said something about a 'dictatorship'. The official guide – we always had an official guide on coaches – must have told someone so when we got to Faro airport I was escorted to the border to say 'bye bye' and never come back. But I got the first boat back from Ayamonte and caught a bus to Faro".

After a successful first few years operating Scandinavian tour packages, the Vickres were thrown into turmoil when the revolution exploded.

"On the day we got a call at 6am saying there was going to be a revolution" she recalled, explaining how in the following days she and her husband cleared hundreds of Scandinavian tourists from the region with no phone lines, a closed airport and amidst growing instability.

"We had four flights that day – I think it was a Tuesday. My husband organised coaches to pick up those who were leaving and took them to Seville as Faro airport was closed. I stayed behind to look after those who were staying more days. I had no contact with my husband as there were no mobile phones then and the phone lines were down" Marianne recounted

"The next day I was sitting with a group of 32 tourists who had to get to Oslo", she continued. But with Faro Airport still closed, Marianne had to come up with an alternative.

"I rented a coach and we drove to Vila Real Santo António, but we couldn't get over to Spain as the border was closed".

After distributing sandwiches to her anxious passengers Marianne had a word with a "very nice" border officer and managed to get the group onto a boat across the river to Spain.

"They [the passengers] asked 'where are we going?', and I answered 'I don't know, but we have to get out of the country!' As we were crossing there was shooting over our heads".

On reaching Ayamonte Marianne contacted the company's head office in Copenhagen, rented an "old Damas City Bus", and took the group to Malaga where they would catch their flight.

"I remember there was a Mr. Peterson on the bus and he had bought a box of 24 eggs. He was sat on the first row and I said 'don't you think you should give them to somebody? I think they will be scrambled before we arrive' but Mr. Peterson said no, he liked eggs from the Algarve.

"The eggs made it all the way to Malaga but there Mr. Peterson gave them to the check-in girl" Marianne laughed, adding "It was a very special day".

On returning to the Algarve, Marianne recalls how "everything was dead".

"There was no one here. All our friends had left. We are very few left from that time, I only know of three or four families who stayed on".

For a year tourism remained down. "From 1974 to 75 there were nearly no tourists". But as the economy recovered tourism improved and decades later Airpass was born. It now caters for passenger handling of most Scandinavian, privately-operated and VIP flights in all national airports. Four years ago she was approached by TAP's Government-owned handling company 'Groundforce' to open and manage a special department in Airpass's name, now known as 'GroundCare', which manages the VIP 'Blue Lounges' in Lisbon and Faro Airport.

In 1995 Trond was appointed Norwegian Consul to the Algarve, a role he maintains to this day. After being taken ill 10 years ago Marianne assisted her husband in his role and over the years "learnt a lot about Consulates". This lead to a surprise nomination as Vice-Consul and earlier this year she accepted the role with joy.

"It is the first time in Norwegian history that a man and wife are Consul and Vice-Consul" Marianne stated, visibly proud.

But her ultimate goal is yet to be achieved.

Despite establishing Airpass in 1989, Marianne only achieved her first 'passenger handling' licence, for Faro Airport, in 1994. She is now fighting for a 'full handling' license, which caters for passengers and aircraft, from arrival to departure.

"The law says that as long if there are more than four million passengers and as long as the airport has the space and conditions, a third, non-Government-owned handling company can operate."

Lisbon Airport currently processes 16 million passengers a year, though only two handling companies have full licences: TAP's Groundforce and Portway, both of which, Marianne claims, are Government owned.

"So now I am going to Brussels. I am making a complaint because there are only four of us in Portugal: Serviceair, Airpass, Portway and Groundforce.

"I don't know if I will be alive before I get it [the full handling licence] but I am fighting for it and for others. This is my dream, my goal".

Newly-appointed Norwegian Vice-Consul Marianne Vikre, with Norwegian Ambassador to Portugal Inga Magistad.

Children's Art Competition at The International Algarve Fair

Optimus and ***The Portugal News*** are sponsoring an art competition under the theme 'Me & My Phone' at the forthcoming International Algarve Fair on 5th and 6th June. The best entries will be exhibited on a wall specially designed to display children's art at the back of the Pavilion and the creators of the four winning entries will each win an Optimus mobile phones.

Even if a child's school is not participating in the Fair, he or she can still enter the competition. All they need to do is to produce a piece of flat art using their imagination to represent the theme 'Me & My Phone'. There will be a specific area on the wall for independent entries which are not under a school's banner.

Three independent judges will be appointed by the Fair organisers who will be asked to judge the entries on the following criteria: Relevance to subject; originality (children should be encouraged to think about what their phone means to them); artistic flair and ability.

To enter, read the rules, then fill in the form and attach it to the back of your artwork.Send your entry to The Portugal News, Apartado 13, 8401-901 Lagoa or you can deliver it in person to The Portugal News offices in Lagoa at Rua Municipio de S. Domingos, Urb. Lagoa Sol, Lote 3 r/c, Lagoa. (see the map on the World Telecom advert on page 6).

Rules of entry

1. The Me & My Phone art competition is open to all children who are between the ages of 5 and 13 years.
2. All artwork must be the original idea and creation of the credited entrant. Colouring in an outline printed or drawn by someone else is also not acceptable.
3. Entries are grouped by school year attendance:
   a) Junior & Senior Infants
   b) 1st & 2nd Year
   c) 3rd & 4th Year
   d) 5th & 6th Year
4. The organisers reserve the right to reject entries they consider inappropriate for any reason.
5. Artwork submitted should be on a flat surface, using any media, bearing in mind that it may be affixed to the black display area, using Blue Tack. Therefore artwork should be neither too large nor too heavy for this purpose.
6. Competition entries must relate in an obvious way to the specified theme.
7. The competition will be judged by three independent judges appointed by the organisers.
8. The judges' decision will be final.
9. Winners' names will be announced at the close of the Fair and in ***The Portugal News***.
10. Artwork must not be framed, matted, laminated, or folded.

Disclaimer

The organisers cannot take responsibility for loss or damage to any work submitted and entrants are asked to remove their entries at the close of the Fair, if they wish to retain them.

Me & My Phone Children's Art Competition
The International Algarve Fair
Fatacil, Lagoa • 5 & 6th June 2010

Name _____
Address _____
_____
_____

Tick which school year applies to you
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- ☐ 1st & 2nd Year
- ☐ 3rd & 4th Year
- ☐ 5th & 6th Year

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The inducting Officers and newly invested members of the Chaîne des Rôtisseurs at Vila Vita Parc

Vive la Chaine!

The Algarve branch of the Portuguese Chaine des Rôisseurs pulled off a quite coup recently when they celebrated their 3rd International Chapter of the Algarve in the fine sunny weather between the 9th and 11th of April.

Members from Spain, France, Switzerland, Germany, the United States and Portugal, met together to celebrate their love of fine dining, wonderful wines, peerless service and generous hospitality in the company of friends old and new.

From a long and lingering first lunch on the beach at Arte Nautica prepared by Ofélia Silva to the grandest, most inventive and meticulous of dinners created by Dieter Koschina and Joy Jung at Vila Joya. From a boat trip along the Algarve coast and a wine tasting from Nigel and Rachel Birch at Adega do Cantor to lunch in the charming and characterful wine cellar at the restaurant Veneza near Paderne. And as the climax of this deliciously memorable weekend, Master Chef Hans Neuner managed to keep the flagging taste buds entertained and tingling with a magnificent, elegantly served, final dinner for more than 70 guests at Vila Vita organised by Kurt Gillig.

The weekend was a tour de force and congratulations must go to the Algarve Bailli, Dr Jean Ferran and his team who master-minded the event. A standing ovation should go to the Chefs and all the staff at the various restaurants and a pat on the back to Roderick Frew who so skilfully selected the many wines which were served throughout the weekend.

A bottle of wine to share with friends.

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Hidden Treasure

Restaurant Joaquim da Praca
SB Messines
914397135

I was disappointed last week. Some friends renowned for their culinary skills had invited my wife and I for Dinner – much excitement. Imagine our sadness when, the day before our "date" they called to change the venue.

24 hours later and what a delightful surprise.

Restaurant Joaquim da Praca in SB Messines was hosting a Wine Tasting from Quinta do Outeiro. And their viniculturalist Engineer Ricardo Burges was on hand to take us through the vintages. Snr Borges, a young man with great enthusiasm and a wide knowledge of Portuguese wines, offered us tastings of the 2007 PAXA Vinho Tinto and the 2009 PAXA Rose (www.paxawines.pt). All wines from their delightful 8 hectare vineyard on the borders of Silves and Lagoa. Two finer examples of local reserve wines would be hard to find. Interestingly neither used the hallowed "reserved" classification. Certainly it is an overworked adjective, particularly when you find absolutely ghastly "reserve" wines at €2 a bottle in some supermarkets.

We moved to our table. The Restaurant has about 60 covers and the helpful Filipe announced that tonight was one of their monthly FADO Evenings so the Restaurant will be full. I imagined sitting shoulder to shoulder with some unknown new friends, but nothing could be further from the truth. Spacious tables, generous seats, neat & tidy table linen & cutlery.

Although the Restaurant has a very comprehensive a la carte menu and is very fairly priced, we all opted for Felipe's recommendation of the special for the evening. And special it certainly was.

Oven roasted thigh of pork with potatoes, chestnuts, coriander and garnished with slices of orange and fresh green beans. We accompanied this with the excellent PAXA wines, half of our party choosing the Rose at €9 a bottle and the rest of us choosing the characterful Red at €12 a bottle.

I can heartily recommend this Restaurant and with the 3 Courses, coffee, wine and water per head cost of €30 it was excellent value. The evening of FADO was lovely and added extra entertainment value.

J & TB

Galaxy Fondants (Makes 4)

110g butter (plus extra for greasing moulds)
1tsp cocoa powder (plus more for dusting)
110g Galaxy Cookie Crumble
2 eggs
2 egg yolks
100g caster sugar
110g plain flour, sifted
Creme fraiche to serve

Preheat the oven to 170C/ Gas mark 3.

Butter 4 dariole moulds with a little butter then shake the cocoa powder around each one to coat it.

Melt the butter and chocolate together in a bowl over simmering water.

Whisk together the eggs, egg yolks and sugar, until light.

Fold in the melted chocolate and butter and then the flour.

Divide between the 4 dariole moulds and cook for 17-18 minutes. The fondants should still be very 'springy' on top.

Gently run a knife around the edge before turning them out onto a plate.

Serve dusted with more cocoa powder and a dollop of creme fraiche.

Milo & Me

Actor W.C. Fields once famously warned 'never work with children or animals'.

But no one has ever said anything about living with them. Three years ago I had neither, now I live with both and to be honest, I could have used some insight.

Life with two-and-a-half-month-old puppy Milo, six-year-old Benjamin and my fiancé (age withheld on request) is, at the best of times, energetic.

From the moment we wake up to the moment we go to sleep the daily routine is a carefully crafted schedule that allows the men of the house to 'do their thing' without literally falling over the dog, while I 'do my thing' with Milo circumnavigating each ankle with every step I take and trying to keep my balance. Good job women can multi-task!

I'm starting to think I drew the short-straw though. While I've not yet broken anything, my hands and legs look like they've been put through a paper-shredder.

But still, the daily routine is an art form that I have perfected with great results.

Now, I can actually put on my eyeliner with a Weimaraner wrapped around my leg and not make even the smallest smudge. It's all about determination and assertiveness, apparently. I think it has more to do with repetition, as never in history have the words 'no' and 'don't' been said so many times. In fact I think I'm going to go for the Guinness World Book of Records for most 'no's in 24 hours.

'Milo, no, don't chew Benjamin's shoes'. 'Milo, no, don't eat those berries'. 'Milo, no, out of the washing machine', 'Milo, no, stop barking at the bucket'.

I'm sure Milo thinks his name is 'Milono'.

These outbursts are normally followed by a quick shake of the disciplinary 'Pebble Bottle', and almost always preceded by 'Carrie – look what your dog's doing'.

It's funny how he automatically becomes 'my' dog when he's being naughty.

Earlier this week 'my' dog decided to say good morning to a sleepy Benjamin by excitedly launching himself at his best friend's lap. Unfortunately, Benjamin had just sat down at the breakfast table where a big bowl of chocolate cereals drenched in milk had been placed in front of him. Milo's surprise launch and the bowl flying across the table were almost simultaneous. As was my fiancé yelling 'Carrie, come and get your dog'.

Anyway, on a more positive note, Milo has started to try new foods. He's started eating the flowers, the lawn, charcoal from the barbeque, wood-chippings from the flower beds, big lumps of red mud and – much to Benjamin's amusement – snails. The first time Benjamin warned me that Milo was eating a snail I have to admit I didn't believe it. After a battle of wills to prise Milo's mouth open there was indeed a tummy-churning grey mess of shell and slime sitting on his tongue, perilously close to being swallowed. At least one of us thought it was really funny and the dog thought the struggle was great! Despite a good telling-off we keep finding little piles of chewed-up snail across the patio. The lawn is looking a bit patchy, the bushes have been stripped naked of their berries and the once-colourful front garden is now decidedly less colourful.

Looking on the bright-side though, we don't do half as much work in the garden as we used to.

Carrie-Marie Bratley

The Algarve Dog Show

5th and 6th June 2010
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We have an agility ring running concurrently alongside the main ring where you can come and have a go for fun or do timed rounds. You can enter for as many goes as you want and try and beat your own time, or compete against others to win the overall competition. Register now to save doing it on the day. Go to www.algarvedogshow.com for details or pick up a leaflet from Paws4Pets, or other outlets across the Algarve.

We have managed to get Fiona from Company of Animals to join us for the weekend. She is an expert on dog training and can help with guiding you in the right direction for helping train your dog. You can register for one on one sessions with Fiona. And I can personally vouch for the benefits of the Halti. I had managed to loose mine and walking my german shepherd was an arm wrenching experience! Yesterday I remembered to get a new one and yesterdays walk was an enjoyable experience and my arm is still in its socket!

Keep following over the next few weeks for more detailed information. In the meantime get your thinking caps on, get the children practicing and PLEASE mark THE ALGARVE DOG SHOW in your diaries, we will see you there.

Best Paws Forward!

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Big Boy

I moved to Alcantarilha two years this month where we have several dogs that seem to be always around creating a nuisance of themselves and foraging for food. The locals leave bowls out with 'lunch' in them and water on hot summer days, my own dog Buddy helps herself now and again.

Big Boy was an oddity, an almost bald dog with dark purple skin and almost hairless save a ring of hair growing around a 3" cist on his shoulder. A real mess and not very sociable either, no doubt with good reason. He would flinch away if I tried to touch him and once even turned his lip up at me when I offered my hand. Best left alone I thought. Buddy would run straight past him head aloof and he would wander on wherever he's going, head down on his endless scavenging trip around the village. The epitome of the village dog, homeless, unhealthy, unloved and unwanted.

Throughout autumn he seemed to be there every time we would go for our daily walk, but Buddy brushed him off and I'd pass the time of day knowing not to get too close.

On this one day, it was raining, so brolly up and 'Dry as a Bone' full length bushrangers raincoat on we set off. On our daily walk, Buddy loved the rain still didn't stop her having her daily swim in the river.

On the way back I could see Big Boy standing there, dripping wet a few yards down the lane. He was wet through and had his rear leg lifted high under his tummy. He was shivering, soaking wet and looking very ill. His eyes were nearly closed and I thought he was near to death. The rain was running off his face making him look like he was crying. His message came over clear and true. HELP.

I thought even if I get bitten, this dog is coming home, so I gently cupped him up in my arms, dumped the brolly (which I returned for later) and took him home. Cold and wet I put him on a mattress where buddy slept and turned the fire on. He slept for two days, eating little and wandering out when he had to.

A week went by and still no recognition from him so off to the vet we went to check him out. After injections, worming, a course of antibiotics and blood tests, a week later declared fit for use. The vet had no idea of his skin complaint but nothing allergic to Buddy, age about ten, teeth good.

Shortly after the course of pills he stopped limping and became more responsive and would walk leadless with us around our daily circuit either arriving home first or a short while after. He eats anything. He started coming into my room to say hello in the morning and would let me know when he had been for his own walks by barking deeply outside the door. Having had the freedom in this car-less village for ten, there's little danger out there for him.

Last week the lady from across the valley came to see me and was surprised I had taken in 'that thing'... She said the village dog has been here in the village for years and years, apparently so has Big Boy. 'Do you know his story, Graham?' 'No, tell me' 'Many years ago when he was maybe just a year or so old, he'd been dumped here and is a village scavenger, he had a brush up with the local garage owner where he'd scavenge each day.

The garage owner was a bit annoyed with him scattering rubbish around so he thought it would be fun to douse him in petrol from the pumps. Not happy with that, he set him on fire!!... Hence the skin problem, he was so badly burned, he disappeared for ages.

I'm pleased to say now, Big Boy, not the world's best looking dog, has settled down to his new home with me, he's absolutely no problem, eats dry food, greets me each morning, walks with us each day, plays with Buddy and is growing his hair back. He now has a light 'puppy fur' covering 80% of his purple body and is soon to go into the vets to have the cist removed.

A real shaggy happy ending story for him.

Graham Cockroft
MD Wholesalevillas Lda

Hi There !

NER is a Molloser type dog, maybe a cross Boxer or Mastiff, but smaller (around 25 kgs). She was found next to the road with a broken leg, probably hit by a car. She was treated and now can walk and run as if nothing happened. She is young, around 1 year old and extremely friendly. When she sees a person approaching, she waves her tail so strongly that her whole butt is moving. Who would adopt her would gain the most faithful and joyful companion of the whole household. If you would like to give her a home, contact: sesimbra.bianca@gmail.com or see more at www.bianca.pt/english

LOBO is a beautiful German Shepherd bitch, she is very sweet with people and children. She is 4 years old and has been found on the streets, her owner would have moved to a small flat and just left her. Lobo loves long walks, she is no trouble at all. She has been vaccinated, wormed and deflead. Call Valerie for a visit 913 860 865 or lili10.evann@yahoo.fr

RUBY is one of the beautiful puppies which are waiting for a new home. Call Valerie 913 860 865 or lili10.evann@yahoo.fr

PRINCE THE LADY or PRINCESS is a large two to three year old spayed female. She is very friendly, soft and gentle. She just wants to stay by your side and be loved. She is super with children and thought to be child friendly. She used to live at a shopping centre until the dog catcher took her away to a terrible place. She was there for two weeks until she was "rescued" to Goldra about eight months ago. She was reserved for a permanent home but has tested positive for heartworm. This disease is entirely curable and not contagious, but *she urgently needs treatment in either a permanent home or in foster care.* Funds for this treatment are available. Contact Laura and Katy 927 921 635 - 919 100 160

Words of Wisdom

Animal rescue is not about drama - it's about saving animals. Rescue is not about bashing people. It's about forming networks and friendships. Rescue is about being as kind to each other as we are to the animals. A little kindness, patience, and understanding go a long way with humans just as it does with animals. Rescue should not be hard it should make you more tolerant.

The Algarve Dog Show 5th and 6th June 2010

The BIG HEART award. Keep your nominations coming - we already have 21 people nominated.

Nominations

To nominate, either email: Juliep@paws4pets.net. Or Go online to: www.paws4pets.net, go to paws online, register and nominate via the forum pages.

Nominations will be accepted up until midnight on the 30th April 2010.

Best Paws Forward!
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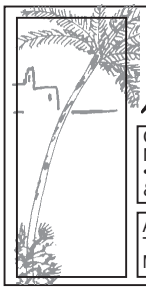

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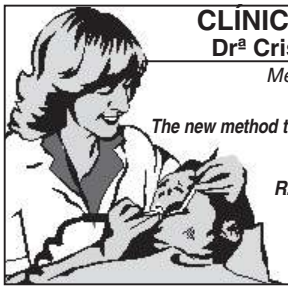

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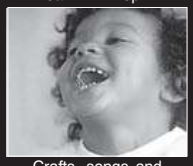

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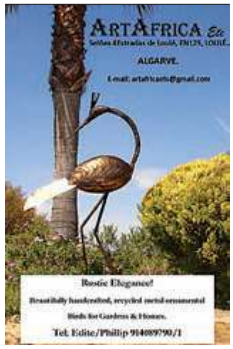

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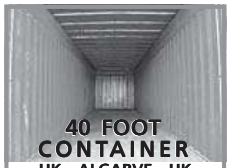

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Algarve Dog Show

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Grand Draw

Every entry ticket gives you the opportunity of free entry into the grand draw. The star prize is an RCI Mediterranean one-week cruise for two and there's Sightseeing Flights, Beauty Treatments, Hot Air Balloon Flights, 2 Night 'Getaways', Hotel Accommodation and Golf Rounds to be won on both days.

Wine Show

Several different wine companies will be bringing their top vintages. Space to sit, talk and taste.

Business + Zone

A new area in the Pavilion which will be quieter and more reserved. Incorporating a lounging area and champagne bar.

Games Area

Especially for children (but adults will like it too). Fairground games, bouncy castle, lots of prizes.

Fire & Rescue displays all day

The Lagoa firemen plus fire engine, ambulance and special 'rescue' and lifesaving demonstrations for children and the chance to put out a real fire!

Children's Art

'Me and My Phone' art competition for children sponsored by Optimus. This promises to be a wonderful art display on the back wall of the Pavilion.

Sports Clubs and Workshops

Find out about art, ballet, football school, scuba diving, flower arranging, cooking, fashion and more at the daily workshops and demos and in the Club area.

Food Arena

Several international restaurants serving delicious food including Pizza from Italy, Surinam Food, Salads, Wraps, Hog Roast from UK, Chicken Piri-piri w/ *Batata Frita* from Portugal, Tapas from Spain, Curries from India and Pies from the UK amd vegetarian dishes.

Arts & Crafts Market

A dedicated section for artisans to show off their wares in a beautiful tented area. Some wonderful products will be on offer.

All Day Entertainment

Children's ballet, choirs, music and singing, fashion shows and our special parade twice a day with the Algarve Fair jingle!

The Portugal News Café

Come and enjoy the hospitality of The Portugal News in their special café situated in the Pavilion. Buy a *bica* and a *pastel de nata* for €1.50 and you'll receive a free commemorative Portugal News travel hairbrush and mirror.

Entrance & Prizes

Entrance is only €3 per person and children under 12 are admitted free. With every entry ticket you have the opporutnity to enter the Grand Draw.
There are competitions to win, bargains to grab, displays and demonstrations, new products to discover, it's a great day out for all the family, and full of surprises.

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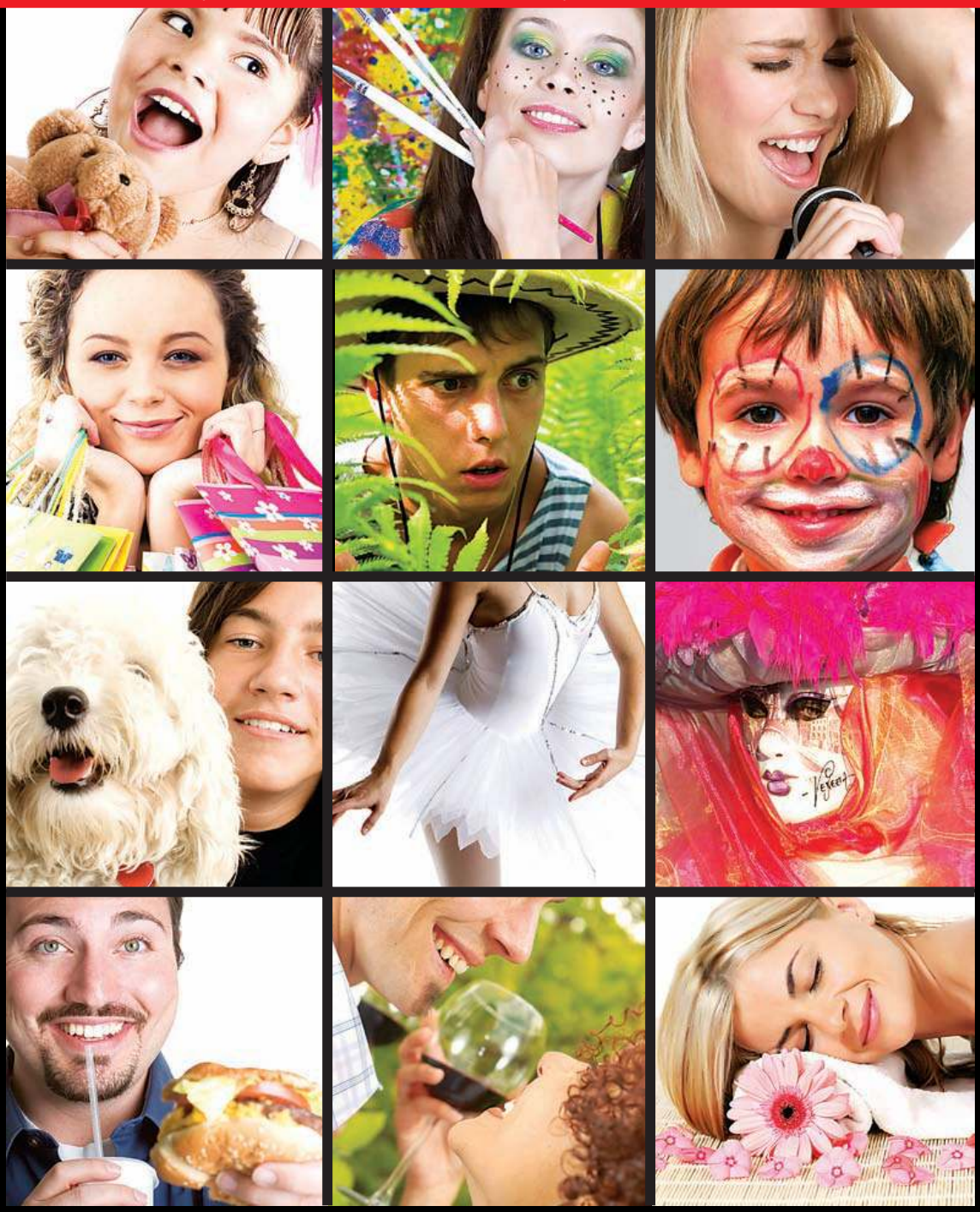

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Benfica one step closer to glory

Benfica are inches away from winning the Liga Sagres, needing only four points from their last three matches to hold the trophy that has not been theirs for the past five years.

Despite Braga's best efforts, since dropping into second place, to maintain pressure on Benfica with successive victories, the 'Reds' have not been fazed by their rival's performances and also continue with convincing victories, looking determined to take the Liga Sagres trophy as early as possible.

Nothing changed on the pitch this week, with Benfica, Braga, FC Porto and Sporting all registering victories, although off the pitch Paulo Sérgio was officially announced as the 'Lions' manager for next season, ending Carvalhal's short and not so sweet run. The current Sporting manager has said he is "working in an extremely difficult context" to lead the team to the end of the season, but guarantees "dedication until the last second".

Braga beat penultimate placed Leixões on Saturday 3-1, with Alan opening the scorecard in Braga's first offensive play at seven minutes. The home team doubled its lead before half time with another goal from Alan, this time coming from a well placed header.

Leixões entered the second half more aggressively and Pouga managed to reduce the deficit, but Moisés sealed the match five minutes from the end.

On Sunday, Benfica took an early lead against Académica (Weldon, 3') but the home team soon came back with a deflected shot from Diogo Gomes beating Quim at the half hour mark. Weldon scored his second just before half time, his quick feet giving him advantage over the Académica defender. In the second half, Ruben Amorim increased Benfica's advantage ten minutes from the end with a beautiful volley shaving Rui Nereu's right hand post. William Tiero managed to claw one back minutes from the end with a long range effort but Benfica held strong until the final whistle and ended with a 3-2 victory.

FC Porto brushed aside Vitória de Guimarães on Sunday night, with goals from Hulk (28'), Guarín (58') and Falcão (g.p. 80'). Despite the compelling victory, FC Porto's title hopes were mathematically ended after Benfica's victory, but the 'Blues' can still hope for a second place as they are five points behind Braga.

Sporting were one goal down at half time in their match against Vitória de Setúbal on Monday, after the 'Lions' offered a free header to Collin ten minutes into the match.

João Moutinho levelled the score half an hour from the end from a penalty and Hélder Postiga granted Sporting the victory ten minutes later, in his first touch of the match.

Benfica´s players celebrate with fans after scoring a goal against Académica during their game at City of Coimbra Stadium on April 18th (Photo: Lusa / Paulo Novais)

Portugal's João Silva wins Monterrey Triathlon World Cup title

Portugal's João Silva has won the Monterrey Triathlon World Cup title at the Monterrey ITU Triathlon World Cup held over the weekend.

Canadian Andrew McCartney pulled away from the field during the second half of the swim and entered T2 with a slight advantage over Americans Brian Fleischmann, Cameron Dye and Ben Collins. Portuguese athlete João Silva and teammate Duarte Silva Marques exited transition just a few seconds behind the leaders. The big pack arrived in transition just over one minute behind the lead bunch, led by Chrabot and local favourite Francisco Serrano.

Midway through the 40K bike course, a lead group of eight athletes emerged and held a 40-second advantage on the chasers. Silva and Marques worked together to pull up during the third lap of the bike section and were now sitting comfortably at the back of the lead group. Also making their way into the front group was a pair of Germans, Stefan Zachaeus and Gregor Buchholz. Chrabot continued to lead the chasers, who slowed during the final two laps of the bike section, as few others seemed eager to share the lead.

"I thought we could catch that front pack," Chrabot said. "But once we hit that 20K mark we really seemed to slow down."

Zachaeus led the front group into transition, but his lead was short-lived as Silva and Marques came storming out of T2 and quickly took over the lead. The chase group exited T2 exactly as they left the first transition, with Chrabot and Serrano leading the way.

Five kilometres into the run, Silva had built a 20-second lead on his countryman and had a 35-second advantage over a trio of Americans: Chrabot, Manny Huerta and Seth Wealing. Buccholz ran another 10 seconds behind. Silva continued to build his lead over the second half of the run, strolling through the chute with plenty of time to celebrate the win. He crossed the line in 1:44:40, then turned to watch the sprint for second-place. Chrabot started the sprint almost 300 metres out and no one else could match his speed. The American finished 25 seconds after Silva and just three seconds ahead of Buchholz. Wealing and Huerta finished fourth and fifth, respectively.

"I was a bit nervous before the swim and had a false start," Silva said. "But I settled down on the bike and felt great during the run."

In the women's race, Canada's Paula Findlay won the first World Cup title of her career, topping Japan's Ai Ueda at the Monterrey ITU Triathlon World Cup. The 20-year old pulled away on the first of four run laps, building her advantage throughout the run.

Algarve politician seeks Ryder Cup compensation

The PS Algarve leader, Miguel Freitas, has urged the Government to increase financial backing for promotional campaigns of the region after the Ryder Cup 2018 candidacy was given to a course that is not from the Algarve.

"Facing this decision, which means above all else the loss of worldwide promotion and investments of around €12 million in sporting events over the next twelve years, the Government and institutions that manage the country's tourism should give special attention to the Algarve, in order to recover from the choice of an alternative location where the event will take place" said Miguel Freitas.

He further agreed with the Algarve Tourism Board's criticism of the Portuguese Ryder Cup candidacy commission for not defending the Algarve's interests when choosing the Herdade da Comporta, a development to be built in the Alentejo.

The Algarve PS leader said this choice of location for Portugal's Ryder Cup candidacy is a "relevant loss" for the Algarve. He argued that as a result, the region "should receive corresponding support for promotion over the following years, whether the event takes place in Portugal or in another of the candidate countries."

Miguel Freitas also added that the Algarve has a long lasting golf tradition and is the region of the country with the best conditions to host a major international event such as the Ryder Cup, having been considered the best World or European Golf Destination three times.

"I do not want to comment about the current candidacy, as I don't know the process. In time it will be made public and we will know the criteria and the reasons for the choice. Now we need to look ahead" said Miguel Freitas.

However, the politician hopes the Herdade da Comporta's candidacy is successful for hosting the 2018 Ryder Cup, because the tournament will have a worldwide impact and will further put Portugal on the map as a golf tourism destination.

SUPERLEAGUE FIXTURES WEEK 28

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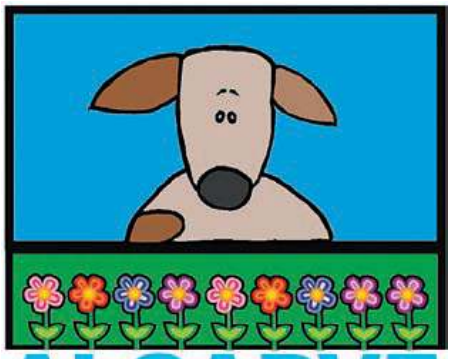
V.Setúbal-FC Porto	Saturday	19h15	SportTV1
Benfica-Olhanense	Saturday	21h15	RTP1
Nacional-P.Ferreira	Sunday	16h00	
Leixões-Académica	Sunday	16h00	
Naval-Braga	Sunday	18h00	SportTV1
U.Leiria-Sporting	Sunday	20h15	SportTV1
Guimarães-Belenenses	Monday	20h15	SportTV1



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